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REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

WARREN'S NEW TALE.

Now and Then. By Samuel Warren, Esq., &c. Blackwoods.

This is a genuine English tale—full of English portraiture and scenery, and breathing of English thought and sentiment. It could only have been written by an Englishman, and will be best relished by those who are best entitled by their knowledge of its accurate painting, to appreciate its excellences.

A book like this we have long looked for, but in vain. It has come, however, in good time, and for good purpose, when the field of fiction has presented, for years, little more than a same succession of crops, reared and reaped very much according to a given established fashion. With one class of clever, but mistaken writers, we have been condemned to wade through the miry slough of French moralities and monstrosities, in which principle is looked upon as an inconvenient drag on enjoyment; and in which probability of incident is mercilessly sacrificed to a semi-insane energy, through which nature is seen in fearful exaggeration; while, with another class, who have adopted the opposite extreme, every rough edge of character has been carefully pared off, and to the utter exclusion of natural taste, sentiment, and feeling, nothing is left but drawing-room *politesse* and conventional morality.

It is no wonder then that we have turned with delight to the truth, freedom, and freshness, which pervade the pages of *Now and Then*, a tale which will add to the high reputation, even of the author of "The Physician's Diary," and of "Ten Thousand a Year"; as it indicates an increase, rather than an abatement of power, and has all the originality of a first effort. We have no intention of, in any degree, abating the enjoyment of the reader, by even hinting at the nature of the plot involved in the story—the intense interest of which is kept up to the last; and will content ourselves with merely pointing to old Ayliffe, as an exquisite portrait of the genuine high-principled old yeomen, who were and are the strength and pride of our country, and the best comment on our institutions—to the generous hearted, but somewhat hot-tempered and prejudiced earl—to the delicate, patient, and suffering wife of the young farmer, unalterable in her affections, and steadfast amid sorrow and shame—to the noble, the amiable Lady Emily—to the low-minded, sordid, cunning Oxley—to the generous, open Captain Latteridge—and to Mr. Hylton, a picture, and we trust not a rare or an overcharged one, of the true Christian Clergyman of the English Church, serene in his belief and principles, and exhibiting these, amid trial and temptation, throughout his daily practice.

As a story *Now and Then* possesses high merit. From the opening to the conclusion the interest is unfailingly kept up, and with such a degree of ingenuity is the plot clothed, that conjecture in the course of it is repeatedly defeated. The beauty of the whole is, that it involves a great moral; we are taught acquiescence to the will of Providence, fortitude in scenes of trial, patience under unmerited suffering, trust in divine revelation, and faith in the final triumph of virtue over vice. Mr. Warren's great excel-

lence as a writer consists in the production of broad general effects by an accumulation of minute touches. It is, therefore, almost impossible for any reader to judge of him by extract.

Here is the opening sketch:

"Somewhere about a hundred years ago (but in which of our good kings' reigns, or in which of our sea-coast counties, is needless to be known) there stood, quite by itself, in a parish called Milverstoke, a cottage of the better sort, which no one could have seen, some few years before that in which it is presented to our notice, without its suggesting to him that he was looking at a cottage quite of the old English kind. It was most snug in winter, and in summer very beautiful; glistening, as then it did, in all its fragrant loveliness, of jessamine, honeysuckle, and sweet-briar. There, also, stood a bee-hive, in the centre of the garden, which, stretching down to the roadside, was so filled with flowers, especially roses, that nothing whatever could be seen of the ground in which they grew; wherefore it might well be that the busy little personages who occupied the tiny mansion so situated, conceived that the lines had fallen to them in very pleasant places indeed. The cottage was built very substantially, though originally somewhat rudely, and principally of sea-shore stones. It had a thick thatched roof, and the walls were low. In front there were only two windows, with diamond-shaped panes, one above another, the former much larger than the latter, the one belonging to the room of the building, the other to what might be called the chief bed-room; for there were three little dormitories—two being small, and at the back of the cottage. Close behind, and somewhat to the left, stood an elm-tree, its trunk completely covered with ivy; and so effectually sheltering the cottage, and otherwise so materially contributing to its snug, picturesque appearance, that there could be little doubt of the tree's having reached its maturity before there was any such structure for it to grace and protect. Beside this tree was a wicket, by which was entered a little slip of ground, half garden and half orchard. All the foregoing formed the remnant of a little freehold property, which had belonged to its present owner and to his family before him, for several generations. The initial letter (A) of their name, Ayliffe, was rudely cut in old English character in a piece of stone forming a sort of centre facing over the door-way; and no one then living there knew when that letter had been cut. The present owner of the cottage was Adam Ayliffe, once a substantial, but now a reduced yeoman, well stricken in years, being at the time now spoken of not far from his sixtieth year. The crown of his head was bald, and very finely formed; and the little hair that he had left was of a silvery colour, verging on white. His countenance and figure were very striking to an observant beholder; who would have said at once, 'That man is of a firm and upright character, and has seen trouble,'—all which was indeed distinctly written in his open Saxon features. His eye was of a clear blue, and steadfast in its gaze; and when he spoke, it was with a certain quaintness, which seemed in keeping with his simple and stern character. All who had ever known Ayliffe entertained for him a deep respect. He was of a very independent spirit, somewhat taciturn, and of a retiring, contemplative humour. His life was

utterly blameless, regulated throughout by the purifying and elevating influence of Christianity. The excellent vicar of the parish in which he lived, revered him, holding him up as a pattern, and pointing him out as one of whom it might be humbly said, *Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile*. Yet the last few years of his life had been passed in great trouble. Ten years before had occurred, in the loss of his wife, who had been every way worthy of him, the first great sorrow of his life. After twenty years spent together in happiness greater than tongue could tell, it had pleased God, who had given her to him, to take her away—suddenly, indeed, but very gently. He woke one morning, when she woke not, but lay sweetly sleeping the sleep of death. His Sarah was gone, and thenceforth his great hope was to follow her, and be with her again. His spirit was stunned for a while, but murmured not; saying with resignation, 'The Lord hath given, and the Lord hath taken away: blessed be the name of the Lord.' A year or two afterwards, occurred to him a second trouble, great, but of a different kind. He was suddenly reduced almost to beggary. To enable the son of an old deceased friend to become a collector of public rates in an adjoining county, Ayliffe had unsuspiciously become his surety. The man, however, for whom he had done this service, fell soon afterwards into intemperate and dissolute habits; dishonesty, as usual, soon followed; and poor Ayliffe was horrified one evening by being called upon, his principal having absconded, a great defaulter, to contribute to repair the deficiency, to the full extent of his bond. At the time of this sad event, Ayliffe was the freehold owner of some forty or fifty acres of ground adjoining his cottage, besides some sums of money advanced upon mortgage to a neighbour, the interest of which he was setting apart for a purpose which will be presently mentioned. But all was suddenly sacrificed:—not only the small accumulation of interest, but the principal from which it had grown,—and not only that, but more than half his land had to be sold, to make good the loss for which he had so unhappily become liable. This stroke seemed to prostrate poor Ayliffe, not only on account of his severe pecuniary loss, but his cruelly betrayed confidence. Nor was this all:—his favourite purpose had been suddenly defeated, that purpose having been, to make a provision for the marriage of his only child, a son, called after himself, Adam,—being the fifth Adam Ayliffe, father and son, during as many generations. That grand object was now unattainable; and father and son shortly afterwards experienced a bitter proof of the too frequent flickleness of earthly friendships. The girl whose hand had been pledged to young Adam, readily broke off the match at her parent's desire; and she being very pretty, and they so well to do in the world as would have enabled them with ease to set Adam Ayliffe and their daughter comfortably going in life, little difficulty was found in obtaining a successor to poor Adam, in a thriving young farmer, whom she had actually jilted in his favour; for Adam was not only of an old family, and would succeed to no inconsiderable hereditary property, but was at once one of the finest young fellows in the county; with a handsome countenance, of a most engaging frankness, a figure tall and well formed; possessed of surpassing activity and

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strength, and of a daring and reckless courage. In all manly exercises he excelled every competitor; and as to his feats at singlestick, they were famous in several adjoining counties. Every one liked Adam Ayliffe; he had a laugh and a good word for all whom he met,—would do anything to oblige anybody; and seemed not to know that there was such a thing in the world to be looked after as—self."

Here is another view of the same family under affliction:

"On the same day on which the old man thus rebuked the distrustfulness of his son, his own fortune was not a little tried by an incident sadly indicative of his rapidly failing circumstances. One by one had been parted with the chief articles of furniture which had for so many years made their little sitting-room a model of neatness and comfort,—articles which had gone, with as much privacy as might be, by the carrier to be disposed of in the neighbouring market-town. With aching hearts the owners saw them removed, and with heavy misgivings received the little produce of them. Still was there, however, in the corner, an old-fashioned clock in a dark oaken case, curiously carved, and which had stood on the same spot, tick, tick, with exemplary regularity, for more than half a century, but was that evening to cease performing its monitory functions in the cottage, having been sold by old Ayliffe during the day for three pounds to a chandler living in the village, and just married; and who was coming to fetch it away in his cart. The top of the clock had, during all the years which have been mentioned, formed the resting-place of the family Bible, a large old-fashioned volume, already alluded to, with heavy brass clasps and corners, kept, by frequent handling, in constant brightness. Quaint and mysterious were the pictures illustrating the text of the holy volume; and by how many of the Ayliffe family, now dead and gone, had that volume been read and hung over with solemn and enchaining interest! Yet so carefully had it been preserved, that not a leaf was missing, or bore noticeable marks of injury. The spare leaves at the beginning and the end were covered with entries of a century's births, deaths, and marriages among the Ayliffes. There seemed scarcely room for above three or four more; yet one would soon be required, of another birth!—and as old Ayliffe glanced at the abridged space remaining, he sadly wondered whether room would be found for a certain brief entry, bye-and-bye, concerning himself!

"It is impossible to deny that, as old Ayliffe sat in one corner of the room by the dull red fire on the hearth, gazing at the old familiar face of the clock, knowing that he did so for the last time in his life, and that on the ensuing day that old clock would be standing, with its grave methodical tick, tick, among a new circle of faces at the chandler's, its new proprietor, he felt an inexpressible melancholy. Never would three pounds have been so precious as at that moment, presenting themselves to avert the coming spoliation! But it was not to be—the clock must go—and those whom it had so long served—so long guided and warned—must do without it. On that evening Ayliffe had read aloud to his daughter-in-law the last chapter of Job; the preceding ones having been read regularly every evening, from the first chapter. Old Ayliffe, as had ever been his wont, read aloud the Bible: and methinks it was a subject for a keen-observing painter to see him and his son and daughter in that their partially stripped cottage, awaiting its entire dismantling, nay, its transfer to strangers,—the first reading with grace, simplicity, and energy, and the others earnestly listening to that solemn and sublime part of Holy Writ, the book of Job. Ayliffe's voice now and then trembled somewhat while reading passages exactly appli-

cable to his own situation and circumstances; but, generally speaking, he discharged his duty with dignified composure and firmness, albeit with a certain rough and quaint simplicity. As he finished the last verse of the last chapter, and closed the book,—

"Ah, my good father!" said Mrs. Ayliffe, with a sigh, "how happy and grand Job must have been at the last! I wish that such things would happen to those who sorrowfully read it!"

"Old Ayliffe remained silent for some time; and then said, looking at her with a grave reprobating air,

"Sarah, didst thou not notice that nought is said in this last chapter concerning Job's wife?"

"No, did I not indeed—but now I do," she replied—"and why is it?"

"There is a reason for it, Sarah, that thou mayest rely on. She perhaps was not let into her husband's prosperity and rejoicing,—he looked at her keenly,—because she had said to him in his trouble, when God's hand was heavy on him, *Curse God, and die.* And these things, Sarah, He forgetteth not."

"His daughter-in-law raised her hand to her eyes, and submitted to the old man's kind and calm reproof in silence; for she remembered a hasty expression of her own, in his presence, some day or two before, which in spirit had fallen not far short of the impious language of Job's wife. While they were thus talking, was heard the sound of approaching cart-wheels; on which Ayliffe rose, went to the door, and shading his eyes with his hand, as he looked up the road, saw that it was the chandler's cart coming for the clock. On this Ayliffe returned rather suddenly, to await the moment of his friend's departure; gazing with a sort of fondness at the poor old clock's face: 'Good-bye—good-bye,' said he, 'I do not willingly bid thee go; but go thou must: and how soon we must follow thee—and quit this, our little home—who can tell?' And now approached to the door the two men who had come for the clock, which they received very carefully; Ayliffe scarcely opening his lips the while, but looking on in silence. At length the business being ended, the men bade him respectfully 'Good evening;' the cart rumbled away; and Ayliffe gazed at the corner then standing vacant for the first time during half a century, with moist eyes and feelings too big for utterance.

"How gloomily did all this herald in the approaching Christmas!"

Now and Then is not only an unexceptionable book, it is a book of sound instruction as well as varied entertainment; and it is pure in its morality and high-toned in its religion. It is handsomely got up; and no token more befitting the season could be presented by one friend to another, or by parent to child.

LORD CAMPBELL'S CHANCELLOR.

The Lives of the Lord Chancellors, &c. of England.
By John Lord Campbell, L.L.D. 3rd Series.
Vols. VI. & VII. J. Murray.

LORD CAMPBELL has completed his arduous undertaking. Lord Loughborough, Lord Erskine and Lord Eldon fill and fulfil the work—the first two nearly dividing vol. vi., and the last occupying above 730 pages of the solid contents of the last. The concluding volumes, we may observe, instead of losing as they approach our own time and meddle with better known men and matters, seem to increase in interest. The sources whence this merit arises are disclosed in the following statement from the preface:

"The whole of Lord Loughborough's papers, including his correspondence from the time when he left Scotland till the close of his career, have been submitted to me by the present Earl of Rosslyn, his representative, and it will be found

that they throw great light upon the history of the reign of George III.—particularly the interesting eras of the Regency in 1788,—the accession of the Alarmist Whigs to Mr. Pitt's government in 1792,—and the dissolution of that government in 1801. I have received from the Earl of Auckland a large collection of letters to his father, the first Lord Auckland, from Lord Loughborough, beginning when he was making his way at the English bar, and continued long after he was Chancellor. The present Lord Viscount Melville has likewise favoured me with some letters written by his father and Lord Melville in 1801 respecting Catholic emancipation, which will embitter the public regret that those great ministers, Mr. Pitt and Mr. Dundas, were so recklessly thwarted in their scheme for consolidating the Union with Ireland. Respecting Lord Loughborough's early career, and his private history, I have obtained much interesting information from the kindness of the Right Honourable the Lord Justice Clerk of Scotland, the Very Reverend Dr. Lee, Principal of the University of Edinburgh; and my friend Mr. Gordon, Sheriff Deputy of Aberdeenshire.

"Several original letters of Lord Erskine have been communicated to me by different individuals with whom he was in the habit of corresponding,—and his son, the Right Honourable Thomas Erskine, has not only put me in possession of an exquisitely beautiful letter written by him when he was a boy at St. Andrews, about to become a soldier or a sailor, and of all the note books compiled by him when he was a student of law, when he was at the bar, and when he was Chancellor,—together with other valuable papers which belonged to him,—but has corrected for me various mistakes to be found in the common biographies of this illustrious advocate.

"Even for the Life of Lord Eldon I have new materials of considerable value, in addition to the very copious 'Selections from his Correspondence,' given to the world by Mr. Twiss. Sir Robert Peel, placing confidence in my, by which I feel most highly honoured and gratified, has allowed me to read and to use at my discretion all the letters which passed between him and Lord Eldon from the time when he himself became Secretary of State for the Home Department, in the beginning of the year 1822.—In the Rosslyn MSS. I have found several very characteristic letters which passed between Lord Loughborough and Lord Eldon about the time when the Great Seal was transferred from the one to the other.—I have likewise been favoured with some original letters of Lord Eldon, by Mr. W. E. Surtees, his kinsman.—From the Records of the Northern Circuit, which have been thrown open to me, I have gathered many entertaining particulars of Jack Scott's *bonhomie* at the bar, and an account of the grand dinner given to him in London when he had become an Ex-Chancellor.—I ought likewise to return thanks to the Reverend Charles Stewart of Sunning Dale, for enabling me, from his boyish recollections, to present such an amiable and interesting picture of Lord Eldon in private life."

The well known leaning of the author who could not divest himself of views interwoven with the essence of his own life and being, having been allowed for, we are inclined to believe that he has struggled with all his might to be impartial. At any rate he has not allowed his prejudices to make him a flatterer even of his own political party, though they have led him to be severe enough on the other side. Lord Erskine seems to be his Hero of Heroes; and when we think of the opposite qualities of the two men, we can fancy this to be a rather curious psychological phenomenon. Thomas, Lord Erskine, all sparkle, brilliancy, mercurialism, was the Mercutio of the Bar—John, Lord Campbell, solid, plodding, indefatigably diligent,

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^{Lord Loughborough;} though a Scotchman too, and occasionally a Whig, does not meet with so much abstinent consideration. On the contrary his portrait is blotted with many black stains, and his character is represented as unscrupulously ambitious, faithless, base, and treacherous:

I should have been glad if I could have omitted or contradicted the following anecdote, but it has been too widely circulated to be suppressed; and it seems to rest on undoubted authority. Intelligence being carried to George III. the next morning of the sudden death of his friend, the Monarch, with characteristic circumspection interrogated the messenger as to whether this might not be a false report, as he had seen the Earl of Rosslyn himself so recently in perfect health; and the messenger having declared that the Earl had certainly died during the night of gout in the stomach, his Majesty was graciously pleased to exclaim, 'Then he has not left a greater knave behind him in my dominions.'

It is related that when Thurloe was told this remark of the King, he vented his spleen against both parties by observing, with an oath,

'I perceive that this Majesty is quite sane at present.'

The whole story is utterly denied by Miss Cotes, who thus feebly expresses herself:

'I think it quite incredible that George III., whose benevolence of heart and kind feeling are admitted even by his enemies, could have made such a speech as that recorded at the end of Lord Brougham's life, on being told of the sudden death of an old and faithful friend, whom he had seen in his house not twenty-four hours before; on that so open and warm-hearted a man as his nephew, Henry Wrottesley, could have refrained from naming it at the time, had such a speech reached his ears, or that he should never at any future time have expressed to any of his own family how much he was shocked at hearing a man, to whom he was most strongly attached, spoken of in such a manner.'

The extreme improbability of the story is all that I can argue upon, as Mr. Henry Wrottesley was, probably, the only person who could really know the truth. Down to me it appears absolutely impossible. Although Miss Cotes's belief is so sincere and so strong, we must recollect that she is not supposed to have been present when the words were spoken, and that they might have been concealed from her on account of her pious respect for the memory of her uncle. I am informed that they were often mentioned to others by Mr. Henry Wrottesley, to whose testimony she refers. The improbability of the anecdote is lessened by the consideration that George III. had always looked on Lord Loughborough with a considerable degree of suspicion; first, on account of his country, and, secondly, on account of his inconsistent conduct. So early as when he was a law officer of the Crown, his Majesty, in a confidential letter to Lord North, said, 'Is Mr. A. G. really running right? I doubt all Scots, and he has been getting every thing he could.'

Lord Campbell adds:

This memoir, I am afraid, may appear to have been already extended to a disproportionate length, and I hasten to conclude it;—but, the reader must bear in mind that while the greater part of those who have held the office of Chancellor, have either emerged from obscurity at a mature age, or have been consigned to an early tomb, Lord Loughborough was conspicuous on

the stage of public life above half a century, mixing with all the most eminent men of two generations,—that he lived to relish the writings of Wordsworth and of Walter Scott, after many years of personal intimacy with Robertson and Hume,—that having exulted in the glories of the first Administration of Pitt the father, he mourned over the calamities of the last Administration of Pitt the son, and that he long continued to fill a great space in the eyes of his contemporaries on both sides of the Atlantic. From his origin he might have been expected to aim no higher than being an 'Advocate-depute' or the 'Sherriff' of a Scotch county; but, striking out a path to fortune unknown to his countrymen, he raised himself to be Lord Chancellor of Great Britain, and an Earl.—I may still be allowed to take a rapid glance at the merits and the faults of a person so distinguished.

He received from nature talents of the first order, and, with a longing after the seemingly unattainable, an extraordinary determination of purpose, which enabled him to overcome all the difficulties which obstructed his rise. He achieved greatness, and he might have commanded the respect of mankind. But of public principle he was wholly destitute. Repeatedly going over from the Whigs to the Tories and from the Tories to the Whigs, he has been not inaptly compared to a ship at single anchor in a river, that changes the direction of her prow every time the tide ebbs and flows. Some palliation of his misconduct may be discovered in the political profligacy of the times in which he lived; but, in aggravation, it must be remembered that he had before him in his own profession the example of the virtuous Camden,—amidst temptations and tergiversations ever consistent and true.

To render Lord Loughborough's worldly prosperity less demoralising, I would observe, that I believe his frequent interested transfers of himself were impulsive as well as unprincipled. With his endowments, had he adhered steadily to either party, he probably would have filled the same offices, and with more power as well as more credit. If in 1771 he had resisted the allurements held out to him by Lord North, he probably would have received the Great Seal from the Whigs in 1782,—and if he had afterwards remained a staunch Tory instead of becoming a Foxite, it would probably have been soon delivered to him by Pitt, when taken from the wayward Thurloe. At all events, what was this bauble, accompanied with reproaches of treachery, and the suspicions and mistrust and equivocal looks of his new friends, compared to the esteem of good men and the self-respect which he sacrificed to obtain it.

He opposed the bill for repealing 25 Geo. 2, which, in cases of murder, subjects the body of the criminal to dissection. 'According to my experience,' said he, 'prisoners hardened in vice, and practised in villainy, have stood with firm countenance during trial, and have even heard sentence of death passed upon them without emotion; but when the Judge informed them that they were to undergo a public dissection, their countenances changed, they grew suddenly pale, trembled, and exhibited a visible appearance of the extremest horror. This sort of exhibition has always made a forcible impression on the minds of the bystanders, and, I have not the smallest doubt, is attended with the most salutary consequences in repressing crime.' He even went so far as to reject a bill to change the punishment of burning, to which women were liable for coining, them treated as 'high treason.' 'I see no great necessity,' said he coolly, 'for the alteration, because, although the punishment as a spectacle, is rather attended with circumstances of horror, it is likely to make a more lasting impression on the beholders than mere

hanging; and, in fact, no greater degree of personal pain is thus inflicted, the criminal being always strangled before the flames are suffered to approach her body.' But such sentiments reflect discredit on the times rather than the individual.

It is in oratory that Wedderburn is most to be admired; and I am inclined to think that, while in the House of Commons, he was the greatest debater, for a lawyer, that ever sat in that assembly. More sarcastic than Murray, more forcible than Pratt, more polished than Dunning, more conciliating than Thurlow, he combined in himself the great physical and intellectual requisites for swaying a gentleman-like mob. His manner was rather too precise, from the pains he had taken with it under Sheridan and Macklin, and from his dread of Scotch phrases or accents; but his voice was powerful and sweet, his eye was full of fire, and, without standing on tip-toe (a vain attempt I have witnessed, to add a cubit to the stature of a little man), the movements of his body were so energetic, appropriate, and graceful, that, like Garrick, he seemed 'six feet high.' Another circumstance which gave him weight in the House of Commons was, that he always remained true to the colours under which he served,—not seeking by display to gain separate objects, or to gratify personal vanity; but, under just subordination to his leader, he seemed only to consider the interests of the party to which, for the time, he belonged. Upon the approach of a great debate he took enormous pains to be master of the subject; he prepared in writing some fine sentences, to be opportunely thrown in when replying; and the story went that he even practised before a looking-glass his starts of surprise at ironical cheers, and his looks of complacency when he expected to be favoured with the sympathy of his hearers. Whatever arts he employed, he was always heard with attention and delight;—controlling the sympathies of his hearers, they, for a time, forgot his political lubricity. Fox, Burke, and Dunning, in turn entered the lists against him without gaining any decisive advantage; he could almost make our quarrel with America appear just, and the war to subdue her well conducted. Perhaps the most striking proof of his great rhetorical powers is the position which he maintained in society, notwithstanding what might be stated to his discredit. Though much abused behind his back, all were civil to him in his presence—even his opponents, who were influenced by the hope of a compliment from him in debate, or dreaded the keen edge of his sarcasm.

From his articles in the original Edinburgh Review, when a very young man, it might have been expected that he would have gained distinction as an author; but he had not imbibed his friend, David Hume's passion for literary fame, and he greatly preferred office, titles, and riches. Lord Commissioner Adam, indeed, says in the Diary which I have before quoted, 'He had produced an historical work which never met the light, although he had taken great pains to correct it—a Dissertation on the Reign of Henry II. of England';—and there is reason to think that he printed anonymously several political pamphlets; but the only publication ever avowed by him was a little treatise which came out in the year 1793, soon after he received the Great Seal, entitled, 'Observations on English Prisons, by the Right Honourable Alexander Lord Loughborough, Lord Chancellor of Great Britain.' It had probably been written when he was Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and it contains the result of his inquiries and observations as a Criminal Judge. Certainly it does him very considerable credit, and it is particularly interesting at the present moment, when so much attention is paid to prison disci-

piled to secondary punishments, and to the most and military systems." During the discussions in the House of Lords on the Regency, the Duke of Richmond strongly intimated that Lord Loughborough had been writing abusive articles in the newspapers against the Queen, and seems to have alluded to the notion then current that he was the author of the Letters of Junius. Thus he answered the charge: "I do assure the noble duke that I have never contaminated my hands with any connexion with a newspaper. I disdain to taint my character with any such connexion. Formerly newspapers contained effusions of wit, candid remarks on public affairs, and compositions which ingenious minds might delight in; but of late the common contents of newspapers have been dull, uninteresting narrative, or violent personal abuse—dark and malignant insinuations, and foul calumny and aspersion. The reason obviously is the impunity with which such liberties are suffered to be taken with the character of individuals, and the gross and vulgar appetite of the public for scandal." I believe his disclaimer. Newspapers were then in the lowest state of degradation. In a former age their credit had been supported by the lucubrations of Steele and Addison, of Bolingbroke and Pulteney; and now, in England as in France, newspapers are conducted by men of education and character, and no one would deem it any imputation on his character to be supposed to have contributed to them; but in Lord Loughborough's time, pamphlets were considered almost the only medium for reputable political discussion, and the periodical press seemed to have been nearly abandoned to men who violated the sanctity of private life, and subsisted by the propagation of scandal and calumny. The evil once begun was continued in an aggravated shape, as long as it was considered that any one contaminated his hands by connexion with a newspaper.

"I can find no sayings of Lord Loughborough worth repeating. He did not seek, like Thurlow, to gain distinction by a display of his colloquial powers; and, thinking of the superior *éclat* to be obtained by a brilliant speech in Parliament, he was contented with being rather obscure in the *salon*. According to some accounts, he submitted to this necessity, after having found by experience that his genius did not fit him for talk. Boswell, having told us that Johnson, in allusion to Lord Mansfield, had said, 'It is wonderful, Sir, with how little real superiority of mind men can make an eminent figure in public life,' thus proceeds: 'He expressed himself to the same purpose concerning another law lord, who, it seems, once took a fancy to associate with the wits of London; but with so little success, that Foote said, "What can he mean by coming among us? He is not only dull himself, but the cause of dulness in others." Trying him by the test of his colloquial powers, Johnson had found him very defective. He once said to Sir Joshua Reynolds, "This man has been ten years now about town, and has made nothing of it," meaning, as a companion. He said to me, "I never heard anything from him in company that was at all striking; and depend upon it, Sir, it is when you come close to a man in conversation that you discover what his real abilities are: to make a speech in a public assembly is a knack." The Biographer observes in a note, which, as well as the above criticism, must have been read by the subject of it, and made him wince:—'Knowing as well as I do what precision and elegance of oratory his Lordship can display, I cannot but suspect that his unfavourable appearance in a social circle, which drew such animadversions upon him, must be owing to a cold affectation, of consequence from being reserved and stiff.'

"He was not the patron of men of genius, like

Somers and Talbot, but the Great Seal had not yet been disassociated from all that was elegant and liberal. If a time should ever hereafter come when the holder of it shall never think of any thing beyond his paper of causes,—however well he may dispose of that for the benefit of the suitors,—a heavy blow will be given not only to the dignity but to the permanent usefulness of our 'order,' and the profession of the law, hitherto affording scope for noble ambition and generous rivalry, will, like any mechanical trade, be a scramble for employment and for money. Lord Loughborough made the acquaintance of all the distinguished men of letters who appeared in his time—invited them to his table, and was ready to do them a good turn. He advised Maurice, the author of 'Indian Antiquities,' to dedicate his book to Mr. Pitt, who, amid many high qualities, was lamentably deficient in the encouragement of literature, and, finding that this homage to power produced nothing beyond a coldly civil speech, he himself solaced the disappointed dedicatory with a handsome gratuity and a comfortable post for life in the British Museum.* He very freely assisted with his purse Fearne, Hargrave, and other lawyers of profound learning and slender practice; but what I consider still more meritorious, he was always eager to serve those who were not 'mere lawyers,' but could combine with jurisprudence a taste for *belle lettres*, for metaphysics, or for political science.

"The munificent homage which he was ready to pay to genius was most honourable to him. He offered to contribute to relieve the embarrassment of Mr. Burke's affairs before the pension was granted to that extraordinary man for his writings against the French Revolution."

We find we have been betrayed to begin at the end instead of the beginning of Wedderburn's career, but on a retrospect it does not appear to us that we have much to bring up. His birth, parentage, and education, are of little consequence now, and the details could possess no novelty. He was a very precocious boy, and his *trajet* from the Scotch to the English Bar (an example much and profitably followed by his countrymen since), was a very striking affair. He took prodigious pains to eradicate his Scots accent, but Harry Dundas rose as well without taking the trouble. During his three professional years in Edinburgh, his eloquence was chiefly displayed in the General Assembly, where he victoriously defended David Hume and his *Essays*, and John Home and his tragedy of *Douglas*.

[To be continued.]

CONTINUATION OF LADY WILLOUGHBY'S DIARY. Further Portions of the Diary of Lady Willoughby, 1848-63. Longmans.

ALTHOUGH the assumed name to the first volume of this popular publication has been surrendered, yet the character is so perfectly preserved, that we can entertain no doubt of the equal success of the continuation. This, it is true, is a rare consequence; but the merits of the work, and the bookish attraction of its appearance, so handsomely and closely imitating the best style of the period to which it refers, are a sufficient recommendation both to the mind of the reader, and the fancy of the *dilettante*.

The narrative, in the same pious and simple way as before, draws a touching picture of domestic manners, and national feelings and misfortunes, during the civil war. Nothing can be more natural, and the mosaic bits of little family matters mingled with the larger pieces of public affairs, create a curious interest in the

* It is said that Mr. Maurice, attending in Downing-street to present a copy of his book, with thanks for the honour of being permitted to dedicate it to so great a man, Pitt replied, "The honour, Sir, was to me," and bowed him out.

whole, which one can hardly ascribe to any but an actual participant in the events so truthfully described. Lord Willoughby's historical mission to Barbadoes (of which Sir R. Schomburgk gives a long and able account in his work reviewed in last *Gazette*) forms a prominent episode in this sequel; and during his absence his worthy Lady presents the model of a good mother, as she does of a good wife on his return and imprisonment in the Tower.

Another of the commendable qualities of the "Diary" is its freedom from partizanship. It is neither servilely Royalist, nor furiously Republican; but fairly allows excellencies and censures faults on both sides, as their aspects and actors seem to demand praise or blame. Thus we read:

"Feb. 13, 1648-49. Hearc with no small concernment that Coll. Hutchinson was one of those who did put their Names to the Sentence given against the King, one of more honourable repute as a Christian and Gentleman I never heard speake of; wherefore it cannot be doubted but that he hath believed himself called upon by his Conscience to this act, and I would also hope, others likewise have beene constrained to join in it against their naturall feelings, but even Zeale in a good cause requireth to be kept downe by a sober judgement: so long as the flame burneth Heaven-ward it is a pure and Shining Light, but turned Earth-ward it becometh a fierce and destructive fire."

The execution of Sir Harry Vane after the Restoration is also deeply deplored; but we must rather look for illustrations of the times from the more private sketches, and here is a pretty example in the recollections of a marriage-day:

"Sixteene yeares ago, I do well remember the morning was like this: the Sunne shone brightly, and my Sisters did thinke mee happy to be the choice of the brave Lord Willoughby, his comeliness and youth made him to bee greatly admired by them, as hee was by manie others. Since that day how much hath come to passe: Trouble and Difficulties to overcome not a few: then my first Child borne, bringing new hope and a joy unspeakable; but the sweete blossom was early nipp'd and the cup of joy dashed from my lippes: oh God thou knowest what I suffered, that my Faith was tried to the uttermost and for a while failed, but Thy Mercie and Truth failed not: other Children were given to us, lent and graciously spared: My deare and excellent Mother tooke her peaceful departure, this a Sorrow, but not a Sorrow without Hope, no bitternesse was in it, her Worke was ended and I had no wish to keepe her from her Rest: Precious Mother! I humbly hope I have not beene insensible of my privileges; I think I may say that under a sense of my owne favoured Lot in this respect, I have alwayes felt much tender Solitude for such as are early deprived of Maternal care, whether knowne, or unknowne to mee.

"During this long period I have had the Happiness of seeing my beloved Husband zealous and active for the Publicke good, and protected through many Dangers; and though very frequent have beene our Separations, and this last (at Barbadoes) the most distant and Perilous, yet have they beeene mercifully permitted to his greater Safety. Thus in casting this backward looke over past years, I am led to acknowledge with Thankfulness the gracious dealing of our Heavenly Father to us, and especially would I note my Husband's timely withdrawal from a party of Men who have fallen into the Snare spread by worldly Pride and Ambition, and in the end brought about the Death of the King.

"But little to add this evening to the foregoing: after fervent Supplication for my deare absent Love, went downe stairs and was met by the deare Children, each of them with a Posie

of flowers, Cowslips Primroses and Hawthorne, and Fanny had gathered some of more rarity from her garden. Die was eager to know the number of years we have been married, that she might give directions for the same number of Pies to bee made, according to the custome in these parts, that there should be set on the Table a Pie for every year that a couple have been married, and she and her sister ranne away to order 16 Pies. They are kindly hearted and gladsome creatures, and most dutifull and comforting Children.

Another characteristic morsel follows :

" May 5, 1652. The Packman is long in coming his rounds, and my waiting woman is alarmed that her stores of housewifery will scarce hold out; and Fanny is like to want imbroiderie Silks, and doth watch his coming with impatience, as sometimes he doth bring of Books a few sortes and Ballads, which she doth eagerly catch up: & he had entered into some promise of bringing for her a booke of Poems by a Mr. John Milton, one that keeps a Schoole at London, the same it is sayd, who did write the *Image Breaker*, a Booke that did excite the Indignation of manie, that a man of parts and learning should desire to injure the memorie of one not only a Martyr, but one who had manie rare qualities, and was our anointed King, albeit in that capacite he did some great wrongs. The work was little read, the while the subject of his attack the *Eikon Basilike*, did excite in people such true Sympathie, that it was read with Teares. A Friend did procure one for mee, which not only doth serve to cherish a sorrowful remembrance of the heavy trial and the grieves of his late *Majesty*, but by the pietie and meeknesse of the several Meditations, doth greatly tend to Education and Improvement."

" We may perhaps doubt the sale of " Paradise Lost" by means of the packman; but the author has thus contrived to intersperse the relation with notices of many popular contemporaneous occurrences, of which accessories we must not too critically complain. We proceed to further extract :

" Dec. 10, 1654. Much Sicknesse and Want among our poore Neighbours: not a day passeth but that some one or other sendeth up to the *Hall* for Phisick or helpe of some sort. Our stocks of Linne Woollie hath beene of good service, also a Cloth called Fustian, made in the north, called Bolton Cloth. Fanny is now rewarded for her diligence in her Herbe Garden and the Still-room, and hath given out divers medicines with her owne Hands, which have proved servicable, and comforting Cordials and Syrups for the Old and Weakly, which shew doth oft take to those that are Bed-rid, and returneth rich in the Blessings of the Poore and those redie to Perish.

In some solicitude for my Daughter Winchelsea, who looketh to the increas of her Famile in another month or thereabout; when writing to her by Mr. Gage did call to her Remembrance the 16 Verse of the 2nd Chapter of St. Paul's 1st Epistle to Timothy. The Lord blesse her and keepe her, the Lord blesse her evermore."

The fate of this poor lady (the Die or Diana of the preceding quotation), did not consort with her mother's prayers. She died at the age of 21, having previously lost her three children; and the account of her death is very affecting and exemplary.

From the death of Cromwell the author skips about four years to 1662, and the volume concludes with some beautiful reflections.

" August 27, 1663. Wearied and somewhat sad at heart, I lay'd down my penne yesterday, and shortly afterward was sent for to give some help to one of our poore Neighbours. The Lesson came not amiss, and the word of the Disciple to the blind Man, came to my remembrance. Be of good comfort, arise, hee calleth thee. There was still Worke for mee to doe: * * *

" Aug. 29. Basid this forenoones in ordering

some Changes in the Household: looked on the Linnen and made out a List of some that could be spared for my daughter Drexton; in the toppe of the Linnen Chest found one or two of my first Babie-clothes strewed with Lavender, carefully pinned up and put away by poore old Nurse; took up the lace cap, the two who had worn it first, my little Sonne, my precious William, and my beloved Daughter Diana, both taken. Can I now say It is well? all things visible will passe away, but the unseeen will remaine, so if the heart loveth these, its Treasures are safe in Heaven. When evening came I walked forth; the Sunne had gone down behind Framlingham, leaving a bright golden edge upon the narrow ridge of darke cloud; the Aire was soft and the Gillo-flowers on the low wall gave out a pleasant perfume as I passed; stopped and pluckt some of the pale yellow Flowers as I thought of the day whereon my three little Maidens brought the young plants from the Castle, and planted them here, the while I stood bye looking at their happy faces; now one is not, and the others are farre from mee. As I walked up and down the Terrace saw the Rookes as they slowly winged their way over head to their nests and young broods; how small a thing maketh the full cup to overflow, the tears rose to my eyes, my home was deserted. As it became darker the Starres, which did at first show but dimly, were now bright and sparkling; There was scarce sound, the Birds were all silent, save the Corn Crake, which uttered its harsh note afar off; a Bat flitted past, neare to my face, the shapes of things became indistinct, and no shadow marked the hour on the Sunne-Dial: a little gust of wind rose, and stirred the tops of the Trees. The stillnesse of all around was very solemn; a sweete feeling that could not be uttered of lowly Thanksgiving and Love spread over my Heart. The Lord was very gracious unto mee; it was a season of inward Peace, as of outward Silence and Beauty, and my Heart was stirred as the Trees of the Wood are moved by the Wind.

" Came into the House, and seeing the Sand-glasses that I had turned at Sunne-sett that was runne out, the Prayer arose that so my Life might runne its course, and gently cease."

Need we add a eulogy on the pleasing and instructive nature of this volume? We are sure it is unnecessary—its text is what we have indicated, and its appearance in wove paper, antique type, and superb binding, such as if it had many errors instead of being most laudable within, we must look on its face and forget them all.

LITERARY BIJOUTERIE.

MRSRS. LONGMANS this season seem to be determined to out-do all their doings of late years, in producing certain works in such a variety of sumptuous embellishments as to make them the veriest luxuries of book-art and decoration. Last week we had to speak of the "Midsummer Eve," and its highly poetic and artistic engravings; and this week we have already noticed the external as well as internal beauties of Lady Willoughby's Diary. But we have still to add to them :

The Good Shunammitte, an illustration of the characteristic story in the 4th chapt. of the 2nd Book of Kings. This is a volume which cannot be reviewed. It must be viewed to give any idea of its deeply cut and undercut massive wooden boards of exquisite pattern and execution. It certainly surpasses any thing of the kind we ever saw. The grape foliage is rich, as can be imagined, and the medallion heads, especially that of the female, perfect felicities. And then when we open the small томe, the blaze of gold and colour on illuminated letters, and the most charming combinations of delicate arabesque flowers, delights

the eye, and turning over the pages we have the subject told in figures of the Man of God, the Woman, the Child, Angels and other scriptural accessories, which remind us of the finest and most valued ancient Missals. Well may the artist be vain to put his name at the end of these twenty pages, and state that "This Book was completed for Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans, the last day of October, at the studio of Lewis Gruner, in the year of our Lord MD.CCC.XLVII." Certes, the colours in the names of the firm are far surpassed by their publication, and Mr. Gruner has demonstrated, that his studies in the Vatican and other great Italian Galleries, have fitted him to take a Master's part, not only in Royal Pavilions, but in such publications as this where it is desired to display the utmost that ingenuity and taste can achieve, in a peculiar style of antique and modern embellishment.

August 1652—Sundays Letters and Flowers, and their Kindred Thoughts, is another specimen of the same class, but rather of a graceful and elegant order. It is the volume for the Lady's Boudoir, or the Drawing Room Table. Fourteen of our common Flowers are sweetly portrayed, and accompanied by slight descriptive verses by M. A. Bacon. The designs are by Owen Jones, and do honour even to his pencil. The colouring of every exemplaria admirable, and take the Rose as a text, we would say almost breathing the texture, perfume, and nature, of the Queen of the Garden. We are further told what these lovely things signify, as for instance the Snow-drop Hope, the Primrose Innocence, the Hawthorn Joy, the Holly Friendship, the Honeysuckle Constancy, and the Rose itself Love. The binding is remarkably fine, and worthy of the floral gems within. Had the goddess Flora an altar in these degenerate times this were the very gift or sacrifice to be laid upon her shrine. *The Historic Lands of England*, By J. Bernard Burke, Esq., author of the "Landed Gentry," &c. Churton. Thus volume, though of a different kind, may fairly be classed among the literary luxuries of the season. It is adorned with about a score of handsome engravings of the seats of nobility and gentry, memorable in the annals and traditions of England. These are described in a very able manner by Mr. Burke, who also glances over county history, and gives a brief but interesting account of princely Mansions and Castles, and of their possessors passed away, of ruined towers, and new families and names, of the ancient Earl or Baron superseeded by the modern Millionaire or Millowner, and of all the dissolving views thus suggested by human life. Well might Scott write of chiefs who had lain so long under their gray stones that noble fame had blotted their very names from the roll, and twined their faded wreaths round the heads of some new minions; and well may the Scottish proverb warn that "A' was ithers, and a' will be ithers." This book touchingly demonstrates the sad truth when it tells of the Leches of Chatsworth, the Grenvilles, first appearing as holders under the Giffards, the extinct Vernons, Cheynes, Purefays, Pomeroyes, Redvers, Heles, Crokers, Crewys, and a hundred other reminiscences of the elder days. The general notices of the counties are extremely curious, and the descriptions of the places selected for illustration full of literary attraction.

A Jar of Honey from Mount Hybla, By Leigh Hunt. Illustrated by Richard Doyle. Square 8vo. Smith, Elder, and Co.

Although this honey has already sweetened the monthly periodical effusion of varied literary condiments by Mr. Ainsworth, it can hardly be less welcome than the most original of its rivals, to the dispensers of Christmas gifts and holiday

* All was or belonged to others, and all will be (or belong to) others.

premiums. Now "clarified and augmented" by the amiable author, and illustrated in a singularly pleasing and classic manner by the genius of the younger Doyle, it is just one of those sweet productions which its title implies, and one which must be most acceptable to every lover of playful and refined literature. Like the bee, it wanders from flower to flower, and gathers treasures everywhere. Greece and Sicily are chiefly laid under contribution, but the variety is throughout so great, and the light remarks and congenial smiles so abundant, and from so many sources—history, romance, superstitions, poetry, music, criticism, and—indeed, we cannot enumerate them—that it does seem at the end as if we had been strolling for hours through beautiful gardens, inhaling the aroma of the flowers, admiring their beauty, and, in fact, making a Jar of Honey for ourselves. For this we cordially thank our writing guide, whose gossipping preface is so characteristic, that it adds much to the enjoyment of the prettiest of pretty literary and artistic conjunctions.

The Pictorial Book of Ballads, Traditional and Romantic., Vol. II. H. Washbourne. This series most creditably fulfills the publisher's engagement to the public when he issued the first. It contains a number of most interesting ancient ballads, and is profusely ornamented as well as illustrated by clever and appropriate woodcuts. Introductory notes and a glossary add to the value of a collection, with which the lover of old song and tradition can never be tired.

The Playmate. J. Cundall. A various collection from many writers, and profusely decorated with clever woodcuts. The opening address is not over-modest, especially when we look at the lowly obscure of some of the contributors, who are better known by profuse advertisements and puffs, than by acknowledged merits to the public. Nevertheless, we can truly recommend the volume as an amusing, and not uninstructive miscellany for youth, and a very pleasant companion for spare hours; the mediocrities and unsustained pretensions only deteriorating a little from the general character.

ETHER, CHLOROFORM, OPIUM, HACHYCH.
Le Hachych. 2me Edition. Paris, au Comptoir des Imprimeurs Unis. 1847. Feuilles 230.
AMONGST the extraordinary phenomena which, by the rapid progress of science, we are now daily witnessing, few are more deserving the attention of the physiologist and the philosopher than the effects upon the human mind of certain herbs and the secretions from them. The cataleptic torpor of the brain and nervous system produced by ether, by chloroform, has been eagerly made available by the surgeon in the performance of those fearful operations which the sad lot of mortality has so frequently rendered necessary for the relief of pain and of disease. Nor have men of observation been less anxious to bring into employment those singular productions of nature which influence the faculties and powers that form that aggregate of operations which elevate man above all created beings, and demonstrate that he was made in the image of his Creator. The effects of the secretion from the poppy, to which we have assigned the name of opium, have been lately the subject of much examination; its power of producing a peculiar delirium, during which pleasure of a nature not easily described pervades the whole system, and scarcely have we been rendered familiar with the fact of its having been long used in the East, and with the information that the majority of an immense nation has been seized with an avidity for the joyous extravagance of mind which it awakens, than we learn that another humble vegetable is endowed with still more singular properties. During the residence of several of our travellers

in Egypt, they were struck with the constant state of exhilaration in which their immediate followers appeared; the gaiety, the hopes, the dreams, in which they indulged. At length, it was found that to a preparation of Indian hemp, the *Cannabis Indica* of botanists, called *Hachych*, this was to be attributed. Lane, and other Egyptian travellers, furnished us with some observations, but it was reserved for Dr. Moreau, the able and well-informed physician to the Bicêtre, and to the establishment at Ivry, founded by the great Esquirol, to introduce it into France, not only as a psychological curiosity, but as useful in disorders of the mind. For, finding that it produced *fantasias*, or hallucinations, he thought that in conformity with the doctrine that whatever causes disease will also cure it, he would try it in monomania. His first experiments were successful, but he seems less sanguine now than when he first commenced his trials, for the novelty being investigated more closely, was found only partially successful. But whilst he was pursuing his inquiries as a physician and a philosopher, others were amusing themselves with its exhilarating and intoxicating influence.

All Paris was talking of this *Hachych*, which was said to inspire the most delicious dreams that only wanted to be realized to make this earth of ours a perfect Elysium. During the state which follows upon taking a dose of *Hachych*, the mind is filled with the most singular and wild projects, expectations are formed, and every perception which the senses convey to the brain is heightened and exaggerated; this, of course, varying according to the habits and temperaments of those who were subjects of its operation. Dr. Moreau, whose experience in Egypt had given him every right to be considered the first authority on the matter, has written a volume upon the subject, which more immediately belongs to the department of medical science, and will, doubtless, meet from the journals published in England devoted to that branch of inquiry, the approbation which he richly merits for his calm and dispassionate inquiry, and for those practical remarks which his position at the great lunatic establishment of Paris has enabled him to make. But besides his valuable work, others of a less exclusive character have appeared, upon which, in the legitimate exercise of our prerogative, we are called upon to pronounce an opinion. The volume before us is one of those which have issued from the imaginative faculties of our French friends, and which, from the reputation of its author, and from its beauty and purity of style, may be classed amongst the best written works of the day. As, however, the learned gentleman has not placed his name upon the title-page, we do not feel authorized to give it; it, however, is the production of a man of high intellect, a contributor to the *Revue Littéraire*, and of one who is an authority in that department of science which he cultivates for the benefit of society. The work may be designated a political novel, and the freedom of expression in which the author has indulged upon all the public topics of the day, and the ultra liberality of the sentiments to which he fearlessly gives vent, may, in some measure, account for the popularity it has enjoyed, and the rapidity with which it has been sought, so that a new edition has been demanded. The only actual connection which we can find with the *Hachych* is, that there is a dream produced by the influence of a dose, during which, the future state of Europe passes in review before him, and he sees France and the whole world such as he believes it will be in July, 1843. The observations upon the herb itself are of a very cursory kind; they are such as might be derived from a very superficial reading; we were, therefore, much disappointed that a title, at this moment so attractive, should

be given to the author's reveries, more especially as he has both the knowledge and the means of conveying information which is at this time so desirable.

The politics vision of the author appears to us such as might be produced by a raw beef-steak, such as Fuseli, the accomplished artist, was wont to sup upon whilst engaged upon his well known picture, "The night-mare," rather than the drowsy syrup of the East, which produces soft and delicious dreams. He indulges in visions of destruction, rather than delight. He sees the overthrow of empires, and before his bewildered fancy dance new and wild ideas of government; he seems to have brooded over the most visionary projects of the Revolution in its most frantic moments, until his brain has reeled, and he would execute purposes to insue, that general disorder would break out and loose the chains which now bind together the civilized world. But if there is one thing more culpable than another, it is his unconcealed hatred for England, and that *anglophobia* which at one time was unfortunately prevalent throughout France. It hardly becomes a man so distinguished in society as is our author, to foster such prejudices against his neighbours. It is true that we have been, and still are, rivals, but in war we respected each other whilst we fought; we met them in the fields of science and literature, as generous and noble candidates for the civilization of the rest of the world, and that there must be difference of thoughts, of opinions, of morals, in two great nations, is as natural as their existence; but, on this account, prejudices are not to be fostered, faults are not to be exaggerated and hated incited. We must admire the literature, the monuments of greatness, the cultivated manners of the French; everywhere they are visible, and if we differ from them, we must do it as becomes ourselves and them, and whilst the banners of peace float around us, let us enjoy the delights they bring, let us have no animosities, but cultivate those friendly feelings which are the safeguard of the liberties of man. The blind hatred which attacks the "monopole commercial de l'Angleterre," and denounces "*l'insatiable cupidité de la perfide Albion*," belongs to another race of beings than those which should grace the beautiful land of France, and inhabit her splendid cities. Instead of farther indulgence in the sweet luxury of the *Hachych*, we hope that before he appears in print again, he will have previously given rest to the perturbed spirits which haunt his dreams, and that the thoughts which represent England as the demon of Egoism may be chased from his mind, so that he may see her playing the "grand rôle" which he thinks, if properly acted, she might have done.

SER. ALS. &c. *In order to quietise all
History of the Prussian Monarchy.* By Leopold RANKE. Translated by Professor Dömer. Vol. I., Part 1. T. C. Newby, 1847. London.
RANKE'S History is too far-famed to require a syllable to be said about it, and therefore, we need only notice that it is here begun to be published in a very eligible manner, and one worthy of public patronage. It is announced to come out rapidly.

Dr. W. B. Carpenter's Popular Cyclopædia of Natural Science. Orr and Co. London. Was noticed with approbation in our No. 157, as a cheap and instructive work; and we are glad to repeat our praise, and recommend it to young readers and naturalists, now that six parts have been issued equally good with the first, and leading us through the various branches of animal economy from Mammalia to Insects. *Knight's One Volume Edition of the Works of Shakespeare.* C. Cox. London. Is a re-print completed in twelve parts, and is extremely well got up for so moderate a price.

Atlas to Alison's History of Europe, Parts I. to VIII. By A. K. Johnston, F.R.G.S. Blackwood & Sons, Edinburgh and London.

In our review of the *Life of Marlborough* (*Lit. Gaz.*, No. 1611) we said the volume was accompanied by beautiful maps; we find that they were selected from this Atlas, which is a very desirable addition to the class of works to which it belongs, and calculated to become the indispensable companion to every History of England, as well as the valuable work of Mr. Alison relating to the period.

The National Cyclopaedia of Useful Knowledge. C. Knight.

A CONDENSATION of the *Penny Cyclopaedia*, intended to be completed in forty-eight monthly parts, with a promise that should it exceed that number, the excess will be presented gratis to every subscriber. It appears to be very fairly done, though, in looking through its pages, we find occasional errors and omissions.

The Imperial Dictionary, Glasgow, Blackie and Son, promises a full and well compiled work. It is in three columns, and will contain a vast quantity of matter.

Knight's Farmer's Library. Parts VI. and VII. Gone on with the Horse, and apparently every available authority has been sought out and judiciously made to contribute to a perfect history of this noble animal.

The Rural Cyclopaedia. Parts VI. and VII. Edinburgh, London, and Dublin, A. Fullarton & Co.

This seventh part of this Rural Cyclopaedia carries us satisfactorily to *Cheese* and all that relates thereto, even the mites.

The Gallery of Nature. Parts II. to VIII. London, Orr & Co.

FULL of nice illustrations. We feel quite satisfied to follow so intelligent a guide as the Rev. Mr. Milner, in his Pictorial and Descriptive Tour through Creation.

The Land we Live in. C. Knight. With a great many woodcuts to illustrate it, and, if not previously seen, in the exact manner of our prolific publisher's issues of the same kind.

A Pictorial Life of Our Saviour, C. Cox, is a cheap reprint, we believe, copiously embellished with woodcuts, and now completed in ten parts.

The Faithful Missionary, by S. Hoga, No. I., (W. Brittain), is a bold and uncompromising Jewish periodical, against the efforts of the London Society for the Conversion of the Jews, which it denounces as most foolish, hypocritical, and, if not inept, mischievous. It then proceeds to discredit the whole history of Jesus Christ, and the origin of the Christian faith, which it describes as contradictory and absurd; and sets up the Old Testament, Judaism, and the worship of One God, as the only sure and rational religion. This is a sign of the times.

Tracts of the Anti-bribery Society, No. I., which takes up and exposes matters of too political a nature for the *Literary Gazette*. We are sorry to see it so strongly alleged that Reform has not diminished, but apparently increased corruption.

Parts I. and II. of *The Nautical Gazetteer* are received. It seems well arranged to afford the nautical information promised by its plan; but it reminds us of the far more extensive and extraordinary design of Captain Mangles, whose Illustrated Geography and Hydrography is one of the most comprehensive works ever published.

No. I. of *Joseph Bentley's Assurance Magazine* is acknowledged; as is also the benevolence of its design for the benefit of the poorer classes. As a specimen No. we think it embraces too many subjects, and is consequently obliged to treat them all with too much brevity. This objection, however, may disappear as the publication proceeds.

The Oxonian, No. I. is a novelty in the fictitious line—a line, in our opinion, already too much extended. In its way it is amusing enough, and its college features distinguish it from the London genera.

The Colonial Church Chronicle, No. I. (Rivington) is intended for a periodical report of missionary doings, and when we look at their diffusion all over the world, we cannot but think a well-conducted design of the kind must produce much interesting matter.

Essays, Lectures, and Orations. By Ralph Waldo Emerson. 12mo. W. S. Orr & Co.

OFTEN eloquent and gifted with much originality the writings of this American author have excited more attention and admiration in England than in his native country; and the publication of the present volume is a judicious step to augment their diffusion and popularity. The opinions of the author admit of much question, his "grand idea" referring everything to the internal mind or sense of man—in short, making the individual the be-all and the end-all here. Certain paradoxes grow out of his creed, and we fear we cannot always follow the invitation to expand single selves to the full circle of the universe; but when we consider the entire scope of these *Essays and Orations*, we feel as if they did little more than ring the changes, with many oratorical and metaphysical ornaments, on the simple golden rule—"Do unto others as you would that others did unto you."

Boswell's Life of Johnson. 8vo. London, H. Washbourne.

With Malone's Notes and Illustrations, an edition of Boswell, in a single volume, though of the elder stamp, must be welcome to a numerous class of readers whose purses do not conveniently afford expensive works.

Letts' Diary for 1848. Letts, Son, and Steer. With the most ample and complete collection, and skilful arrangement of every sort of information, which is likely to be sought by the commercial world during the ensuing year; this Diary, as usual, is prepared with ruled pages, numerous enough, for keeping the accounts and memoranda of any ordinary housekeeping and business. In short it is one of the most useful productions of the kind that could be published.

Patent Journal Almanack, 1848. Barlow, Le Capelain, and Payne.

A sixpenny broadsheet likely to be as popular and as highly prized in its usefulness as the "Patent Journal," issuing weekly from the same press. The wide margin of the almanack, pictorial illustrations of patented inventions and registered designs, encloses the usual calendar, postal and bank arrangements, stamp duties, holidays at public offices, &c., together with practical tables of steam-engine work, and a list of patents from 12th Nov. 1846, to 30th Sept. 1847.

The Physiology of Muffs. By W. Gaspey. London, Willoughby and Co.

ANOTHER production of the "Gent" class, and exposing the affectations and follies of a numerous set of young London, who flourish under the title of Muffs; i.e., puppies of sundry kinds, more remarkable for their want of sense than for the possession of any estimable quality. Mr. Gaspey has handled them cleverly, and told us as much as we could desire to know of the habits of such contemptible coxcombs.

Tables, shewing the legally appointed Weight of British Gold and Silver Coins, &c. By J. H. Watherston, goldsmith. Pp. 48.

Most of our readers have heard of the Pyx, or yearly assay of the coinage by a jury at the Mint; but we dare say not one in a hundred of them knows anything about the data, the process, the calculations, or the result. From this little volume they will be instructed in the whole matter, which is one of infinite importance to our currency and national credit.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

ARTIFICIAL HYDROPHANE AND HYALITE.

M. EBELMEN'S new specimens of artificial hydrophane, larger than he had been hitherto enabled to produce, have been obtained either from silicic ether, or from alcohol mixed with chloride of silicon. Some of these products contracted 96 per cent. of the primitive volume, the hydrophane being reduced to $\frac{1}{4}$ of the volume it had at the moment of solidification. Several of the hydrophanes thus prepared become quite transparent in humid air. Heated to 30 or 40° they begin to become opaque, by losing a certain quantity of water. They again, however, become almost transparent, preserving only a slight opaline tint, when continued to be dried at the same temperature. The quantity of water they lose by exposure to air at this temperature is 45 per cent. of the weight of the dry hydrophane. Exposed again to air at ordinary temperature they regain their transparency and weight. Hypochloric gas, ammoniacal gas, and sulphuretted hydrogen are absorbed in great quantities by dried hydrophane; it possesses absorbing properties comparable to those of charcoal and of many other porous bodies, but never, hitherto, found in any diaphanous body.

The diaphanous silica obtained by silicic ether may be compared to hyalite, which possesses neither double refraction nor rotatory power. Hyalite is notably harder. The quantity of water it encloses does not exceed 10 per cent., whilst the product obtained by M. Ebelman contained nearly 22 per cent. It must be added, however, that it appears capable of losing water for a considerable length of time under the influence of a molecular movement of great slowness. Molecular action had not terminated in one specimen fifteen months after its solidification. M. Ebelman has found no more than 19 per cent. of water in a specimen kept for more than two years in contact with air. Dried to 115° the diaphanous silica loses its water and becomes slightly opaline. It regains this water by exposure to air, but without recovering its transparency.

By mixing silicic ether with alcoholic solutions of coloured matters, varied tints are obtained. One of the most remarkable effects is due to the use of chloride of gold. The silica is coloured a beautiful topaz yellow. At the end of a certain time and under the influence of diffused light, layers of gold, having the metallic lustre, are developed in the middle of the solidified mass, and give it the appearance of aventurine. This development of crystalline lamina in the middle of a solid mass, is a remarkable phenomenon, the study of which may, perhaps, explain the formation of natural aventurine. Exposed to direct solar light, the aventurine of the chloride of gold takes the colours blue, violet, and rose, remaining still transparent. When the crystals of metallic gold, developed in the middle of the siliceous mass, are very numerous, by transmitted light, a green colour is observed.

GEOLICAL SOCIETY.

Dec. 1.—Sir Henry T. de la Beche in the chair. "A Report on the Fossil Remains of Mollusca from the Palaeozoic Formations of the United States contained in the collection of C. Lyell, Esq.: with remarks on the comparison of the North American formations with those of Europe," by D. Sharpe, Esq., was read. Mr. Lyell's collection contains about 200 species of mollusca from formation; ranging from the lowest fossiliferous groups up to the top of the Devonian series, principally from New York. The formations in this state have recently been classified by Mr. James Hall in his State Report, and compared with the European series. His table exhibits a greater number of groups than are distinguished in England; but this arises wholly from minute subdivision, and does not imply, as is frequently supposed, that the series in the

United States is more complete than in this country. It has likewise been supposed that there are fossiliferous beds in America lower than any in England; but for this opinion also, there seems no valid foundation, and none of their beds appear of greater antiquity than the oldest fossiliferous strata in North Wales. From a review of the organic remains compared with those in England, Mr. Sharpe finds that the whole system naturally divides into three great groups:—1st. A vast accumulation of sandstone with occasional beds of limestone, reaching from the earliest fossiliferous beds up to the Medina group, inclusive. 2nd. A great calcareous series, mixed with some shales and sandstone, extending as high as the upper Pentamerus limestone. 3rd. A more extended argillaceous series, consisting chiefly of shales and argillaceous sandstones, and reaching up to the Chemung group, on which the old red sandstone rests. The organic remains of the lowest, or sandstone, division present a great accordance with those found in the lower Silurian formations in Europe: 14 out of 47 species of Mr. Lyell's collection, or nearly 30 per cent., being well-known European forms. In the calcareous series the agreement is still more remarkable: 20 out of 50 species of molluscs, or 40 per cent., being common to Europe, and a very large proportion of them to the Wenlock formation. In the upper, or argillaceous division, in more than 100 species only 22, or about 20 per cent., are common, and most of them carboniferous or Devonian species; so that on the whole this group may be identified with the Devonian system of Europe. Mr. Sharpe finds that some species, as the *Spirifer tenuis*, *Terebratula reticularis*, and *Orthis resupinata*, occur in an earlier part of the series in America than in Europe, and may thus be considered as native Americans which have migrated at a more recent period to Europe. Other species, as the *Dentina depressa*, seem, on the contrary, to have appeared earlier on the east of the Atlantic, consequently migrating in an opposite direction. Not only species, but even groups, of shells occur earlier in one country than the other, and thus teach us very forcibly how liable to error are all classifications of the formations of distant regions, based only on the generic resemblance of organic remains.

CHIMICAL SOCIETY.

No. 15.—The President in the chair. The following papers were read: 1. "On the Specific Heat of Bromine," by Thomas Andrews, M.D. After alluding to the importance of ascertaining the specific heat of this the only fluid non-metallic element that we are acquainted with, and describing the method of conducting the investigation, the purification of the substance, and the testing both the accuracy of the process and the purity of the bromine, the author finds that the mean of five experiments gives the specific heat of this element 10.1071. This will therefore form an apparent exception to the law of Duberg and Petit, as its specific heat is about one-fourth higher than that required by theory. This, Dr. Andrews considers, arises from its liquid form, as there is every reason to believe that the specific heat is lower in the solid than in the fluid state. These results confirm the view of Berzelius, that the atomic weights of chlorine, bromine, iodine, and probably fluorine, are one-half of those usually adopted in this country. 2. "On the Determination of Nitrogen," by Mr. John Mitchell. The author, after reviewing most of the plans adopted for this purpose, and stating his objections, gave in detail his own method, which is a modification of that proposed by Reliquat; but, instead of using dilute muriatic acid in the absorbing apparatus, and a solution of lime in sugar, he employs diluted sulphuric acid, which contains about 45 to 5 p. c. of dry

sulphuric acid, and a solution of caustic soda, 300 grains of which will about neutralize 100 grains of the acid. This caustic soda is added by Dr. Schuster's alkalmeter, until the acid liquid is perfectly neutral, the difference in the quantity of that acid giving the ammonia absorbed during the combination. 3. "Analysis of Bichromate of Ammonia, and some Double Salts of Chromic Acid," by Mr. S. Darby. The salts analysed by the author in bichromate of ammonia, giving the formula, $\text{NH}_3 \cdot 2\text{CrO}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$. Bichromate of ammonia, $\text{NH}_3 \cdot \text{CrO}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$. Bichromate of mercury, $\text{NH}_3 \cdot 2\text{CrO}_4 \cdot +\text{HgCl}$, and chloride of mercury, $\text{KO} \cdot 2\text{CrO}_4 \cdot +\text{HgCl}$. Chloride of mercury, $\text{K}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{CrO}_4 \cdot +\text{HgCl}$. Chromate of potash and chloride of mercury, $\text{K}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{CrO}_4 \cdot + 2\text{HgCl}$. Proto-chromate of mercury, $\text{Hg}_2\text{O} \cdot + \text{CrO}_4$. Per-chromate of mercury, $\text{Hg}_2\text{O} \cdot + \text{CrO}_4$. Chromate of potash and cyanide of mercury, $2\text{K}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{CrO}_4 \cdot + 3\text{HgC}_y$. Chromate of silver and cyanide of mercury, $\text{Ag}_2\text{O} \cdot 2\text{CrO}_4 \cdot + 2\text{HgC}_y$.

some singular varieties of several British *Noctuidae*, and Mr. Spence read a note on some species of insects destructive to the cotton crop in North America.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.

Dec. 8, 1847.—Mr. T. Hoblyn, in the chair. After remarks on Mr. Archer's paper on sepulchral brasses and incised stones read at the last meeting, Mr. Slocom exhibited two scythes, a scythe and cradle for reaping corn, a grass scythe, three spring tempered manure and hay forks, a cast steel hand hoe, and an American axe. He stated the peculiarity of these implements to consist in their lightness, cheapness, and durability, thus enabling the agricultural labourer to accomplish a larger amount of daily work at a less cost. The implements he exhibited were such as are commonly used in the United States.

A communication was read from Mr. W. Taylor, on the cultivation of the *Polygonum Tinctorium*, or Dyers' *Tinctoria*. This plant, observes Mr. Taylor, "is a native of China, and was introduced into this country in 1776, by John Blake. It is used in China and Japan for the purpose of dying a blue similar to that of the finest indigo; the colour is obtained from the leaves of the plant, which are dried, pounded, and made into cakes. With these cakes Thunberg says 'they dye linen, silk, and cotton'; when the cakes are boiled they add ashes, and the stronger the decoction is made the darker is the colour. The plant grows best in this country, on soils of a medium texture, which must also be well manured before the seed is sown, which is best sown in rows, about the middle of April. Two pounds of seed to the acre is sufficient, but the plants may be planted out in rows from the hot bed, at the rate of about 16,000 to the acre, and unless they are brought forward and planted out, they will not produce seed in England."

"The plant can be prepared for the market in three ways, viz.: 1st. It may be cut in a green state and sold to the dyer, in which case, an acre would produce 5 tons of leaves and stalks, worth about £30.

"2nd. If cut and placed in vats, so as to precipitate the 'fecula' or indigo," the acre would produce 3 ewt. of colour, which, at £1. per lb., would be worth £16 16s.

"3rd. The plant may be cut up, dried, and packed in bundles, the acre would then yield 3 tons of dyeing matter, and be worth about £21.

"The colouring matter may be extracted either by fermentation or scalding. Specimens of the plant and colour were exhibited."

The last communication read was by Mr. W. Bennett, on some samples of flax, grown in Ireland in 1847. Specimens of the flax were exhibited, and Mr. Bennett stated, they were produced under every disadvantage possible, and in one of the most remote and destitute corners of the whole island, viz., the Barony of Eoros, county of Mayo, on the western coast, and under the superintendence of G. S. Bourne, the peasantry being wholly unacquainted with its mode of culture and preparation. The flax is of good quality, and worth from 6s. to 8s. per stone. The introduction of its culture has also afforded employment to a large number of poor women in spinning. The peasantry are also being employed to manufacture linen, from looms erected in the stables of a clergyman in another most distressed locality, specimens of which were exhibited.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

Sentonian Prize, Cambridge.—No prize has been adjudged this year.

CAMBRIDGE, December 8th.—The following degrees were conferred:

Masters of Arts.—J. H. Thomas, Trinity Coll.; B. Girling, St. John's Coll.; A. Wodehouse, (grand comp.), Trinity Coll.; T. Inman, Queen's Coll.; J. Burrows, Magdalene Coll.

Bachelors of Arts.—T. Inman, Queen's Coll.; J. Burrows, Magdalene Coll.

Master of Arts.—J. D. Gibson, B.A., by Royal Mandate.

BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

Dec. 10th.—Public Meeting.—Lord Albert Conyngham, President, in the chair.

Mr. F. Baigent exhibited a complete coloured drawing of the mural painting discovered by him in Winchester Cathedral, up to the day of meeting. The picture of Christ calling Peter on the sea, is now made pretty perfect by the recovery of details and an accessory and beautiful canopy.

Mr. Waller made some observations on the painting, which, he said, was of the time of Edward III.

Mr. S. R. Solly exhibited a plan of the walls discovered at old Verulam, by Mr. Grove Lowe, assisted by the St. Albans' Architectural Society. Mr. Lowe, it appears, is continuing his interesting researches, and has opened new ground at some little distance from the site of his first operations, and has already been successful in meeting with what appear to have been dwelling houses. The Hon. R. C. Neville communicated an account of a discovery of a room walled with solid clunch chalk on the summit of Heyden Hill, about nine miles from Saffron Walden. Tradition had long assigned to this locality subterraneous work, and Mr. Neville resolved to submit its truth to the test of an excavation. A square apartment was opened at the depth of two or three feet from the surface, and in it, on one side, was found what appeared to be a kind of altar, which, like the walls, was formed of chalk. The room itself was filled with a kind of ash, and upon the floor, in which was a gutter, lay a quantity of bullock's bones, a bronze bracelet, broken pottery, pieces of colanders, a small brass coin of Constantius, and a horse bell.

Mr. N. Gould presented a wax impression of the ancient seal of the Court of Arches, or "St. Maria de Arcibus," from its being held in the vestry of the church of St. Mary-le-Bow, of the steeple of which (before the fire of London), this seal is a representation. There was an ancient order of the common council, Mr. Gould observed, that a light should be exhibited at night in the lantern of the steeple to guide passengers in their approach to the metropolis.

Mr. Croker read a letter from Sir C. Douglas respecting the discovery at Bedford, of a stone coffin, of the early part of the 14th century, which the directors of the railway, upon whose property it had been found, had very liberally placed at the service of the Association. A drawing, and an account of the coffin, by Mr. James Wyatt, of Bedford, were also furnished by Mr. Burkitt. The relic was found in the old religious house, near the railway station, known as the Hospital of St. Leonard, which has long been occupied as a beer-shop! The lid of the coffin is prismatic in form, and bears a fine cross in relief, with a florid circular head, mutilated at some former period. Within the coffin were the remains of a skeleton, and a small leaden or pewter chalice. Mr. Wyatt, in his communication, says, "It is to be lamented that the building itself was not preserved from destruction and ruin." The Hospital was one of the inferior religious houses founded before the year 1302. It is described by Lyons, in his *Magna Britannia*.

Mr. R. Smith read a note by Mr. Cunningham, on the oaken bone implement exhibited on a former evening, and ultimately a rather elaborate and very interesting paper by the Rev. Beale Post, on the ancient city walls of Rochester.

Mr. Fairholt exhibited an impression of a

Norman seal, which was found at Stratford-on-Avon, near the bridge, on the road to Clifford. The legend reads, "CAPVT OMNIVM XPC," and encloses a Roman intaglio, cut in cornelian, representing a female head. It was found in a jar, together with a gold ring set with a sapphire, and about 1,000 pennies of Henry III. The seal and ring, and several of the coins are now in the possession of R. B. Wheeler, Esq., of Stratford. The treasure was probably concealed during the troublous time of Henry.

Mr. Wright remarked, that Roman gems were frequently inserted in monastic and other seals in the middle ages, and that a superstitious value was attached to them as amulets or charms.

We copy the following from the *Journal des Débats* of December 10th:

"We have already related in one of our numbers of September, the progresses made by M. Isidore Löwenstern in the deciphering of the Assyrian writings.

"M. Löwenstern has again obtained a new and important result. In a letter directed to the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres, (reprinted also in the *Révue Archéologique* of the month of September) he has announced the name of the king which is to be found on the Assyrian monument of Khorsabad (the fragments of which are exhibited in the Louvre,) as being decidedly that of Sargon of the prophecies of Isaiah, and known more generally by the name of Asaraddon. This discovery, the consequence of his researches already published in 1845, and of those of M. de Sauly, communicated to the Académie, is now confirmed by a notice contained in the *Journal Asiatique* of October. According to this notice, the learned archaeologist, Major Rawlinson, and the English traveller Mr. Layard, have recognised in the same group of letters, the king who built the Palace of Khorsabad. Messrs. Löwenstern and de Sauly now entirely agree in reading this name *Sarkan*, and the historical fact which follows out of this reading, can be considered as an acquisition to science."

We extract this interesting notice with the more pleasure as our readers will remember the letter which appeared in the *Literary Gazette* on the 14th of August last, by M. Löwenstern, on the subject of *Sargon*:

"We learn that M. Löwenstern has made some recent important discoveries. He has read the sign for the plural* as *nün*, being quite Semitic in its structure, and constantly advances in the deciphering of the numerous letters. He reads, as he informs us, the name of the king on the monument of Nimroud, as *Sauah*, or *Senah*, and considers it as identical with the *Sennacherib* of the Bible."[†]

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Monday.—Statistical, 8 p.m.—Chemical, 8 p.m.—Metrical, 8 p.m.

Tuesday.—Linnean, 8 p.m.

Wednesday.—Microscopical, 8 p.m.

FINE ARTS.

ROYAL ACADEMY.

The distribution of the Royal Academy medals took place on the 10th inst., when presentations were made to the following gentlemen:—J. E. Millais, for the best historical painting, the gold

* The sign for the plural is composed of a perpendicular wedge, followed by three triangles.

† This name, at the beginning of the Nimroud inscriptions, and following the two signs for *usuh*, "the great," consists (after the perpendicular wedge, indicating proper names,) of three letters. The first, *S*, presents three wedges, placed in a line on a fourth, and is preceded by two horizontal wedges. The second letter, *N*, is composed of two wedges, put cross-wise; and the third, of two perpendicular wedges, the second wedge being separated in two. Its value is *A*, forming together, *S.N.A.*

medal, and the Discourses of Reynolds and West; G. G. Adams, for the best historical group in sculpture, the gold medal, and the Discourses of Reynolds and West; E. Rumsay, for the best architectural design, the gold medal, and the Discourses of Reynolds and West; W. Proctor, for the best copy made in the school of painting, the silver medal, and the Lectures of Fuseli and Flaxman; T. G. Duval, for the best drawing from the life, the silver medal, and the Lectures of Fuseli and Flaxman; F. Pickering, for the next best drawing from the life, the silver medal; J. C. Lansdown, for the best architectural drawings of the entrance and interior of the Temple Church, the silver medal, and the Lectures of Fuseli and Flaxman; C. Compton, for the best drawings from the antique, the silver medal, and the Lectures of Fuseli; E. Eagles, for the next best drawing from the antique, the silver medal, and E. J. Phipps, for the best model from the antique, the silver medal.

The Graphic Society has commenced its sixteenth session, and though before Christmas there is seldom much done or shown, we rejoice to say that the Meeting was well attended, and the contributions in art very interesting.

The Prize Cartoons.—Being the Eleven Designs to which premiums were awarded by the Royal Commissioners of the Fine Arts, in 1843. Engraved on stone, from the reduced drawings made by John, James, and William Linell. London, Longmans.

As the exhibition of these Frescos made an epoch in the history of the Fine Arts and native school of England; so ought this their publication to be esteemed a worthy sequel and following out of an important measure. Having offered our opinion upon the paintings when first seen in Westminster Hall, and on these specimens when the reduced drawings were shown in the Suffolk Street Gallery; we have now only the task of reviewing them in their new form of lithographed engraving, in which shape they are manifestly calculated to diffuse a knowledge of and taste for the high in Arts throughout the empire. The encouragement given by the state could effect little for this desirable purpose, and we therefore consider the nation to be deeply indebted to the publishers for the liberal and patriotic spirit which they have evinced in this expensive enterprise. The undertaking was worthy of a house of first rate standing and we trust it will be rewarded with the success it so eminently deserves.

1. "Cæsar's First Invasion of England," by G. Armitage, comes out with every advantage of striking composition in this new style. We prefer it to the picture. The athletic forms seem less exaggerated, and the strong expression in the countenances of the warriors on both sides and their straining sinews tell, in forcible language, the fierceness of the struggle.

2. The next, "Caractacus at Rome," by G. F. Watts, does not, we think, engrave quite so well. There is a statue-like hardness in the head of the British Chief, and the stare of the child at his feet, and the grotesque witch head on the right, are not to our mind. Most of the less distinguished parts and accessories, however, render the whole a fine historical scene.

3. "The First Trial by Jury" (C. W. Cope) is a charming piece, full of a gravity congenial to the subject and replete with interest. The story is ably told, and the murderer, the murdered, the accuser, the jury, and the judge and his priestly assessors are all excellently portrayed.

4. "St. Augustine preaching" (J. C. Horsley) is truly rendered; the Queen's face rather overshadowed.

5. "Cardinal Bourchier urging the Queen of Edward IV. to give up her Children from the Sanctuary" (J. L. Bell) is even more smudgy in the engraving; whereas

6. "The Fight for the Beacon" (H. Townsend) displays all the force of the original to admiration, but it is a noble group, of foremost academic and anatomical talent; kept within due bounds, and though full of the most energetic action, equally true to nature. *Una alarmed by the Fauns and Satyrs* (Wm Ed. Frost) is tinged with a deep glowing bluster colouring, and is a very delightful performance. It is poetry, and worthy of the poet. The countenances of the Fauns and Satyrs admirably varied.

7. "Joseph of Arimathea converting the Britons" (E. T. Parris) is executed in a dark tone and affords a contrast not so favourable to the artist as the great merits of his picture deserve. Age and youth, dignity and beauty, persuasion and reverence, belief and incredulity, tell in this fresco, and do honour to the name of the artist, whose previous performances, distinguished as they are in other lines, had not prepared us for so great an effort in this new course.

9. "Boadicea haranguing the Iceni" (H. C. Selous) makes a grand, enthusiastic, historical work, and is ably composed throughout.

10. "Alfred submitting his Laws to the Witan" (J. Bridges) is one of our especial favourites. It seems as simple and efficient as the wise laws propounded; and the earnestness of the members of the Witan and the attentiveness of the spectators are happily represented. The attitudes too are in perfect keeping, and we can readily conceive the interest of the scene, so pregnant with the most important consequences to the British people.

11. "Queen Eleanor"—J. Severn. The romantic and heroic act of sucking the poison from the wound of her royal husband is a fitting conclusion to the series.

Altogether, the first great step taken by the Royal Commissioners was necessarily limited in operation, and it required a publication like this to spread a knowledge of what high Art aimed at throughout the length and breadth of the land. That there are inequalities, both in the treatment of subject and in the execution of the lithographs, is an inevitable consequence; but we will ask of every candid person, and of every friend to the cultivation of our native School and national taste, if such productions are or are not calculated to do eminent service to both?

Finden's Royal Gallery of British Art. Part XIII.

J. Hogarth.

THERE has been a considerable lapse of time since we had the last part of this truly national work before us, but the delay is amply compensated for by the merits of the present number, which fully maintains the high character of the Royal Gallery. It opens with a charming engraving, by J. Cousen, of Stanfield's admirable picture of the "Day after the Wreck," of which we spoke as it deserved at the time it was exhibited. The great merits of the painting have been well preserved in the engraving, which, we repeat, is very beautiful. Lee's "Ferry," engraved by E. Goodall, is a delicious bit of sylvan scenery, in which the lights and shadows are well contrasted, while the ferry-boat in the foreground gives life and animation to the whole. The trio of this part is completed by Uwins's splendid picture, "Behold the Lamb of God," well engraved (with an occasional darkness here and there) by J. Outram. Altogether, this is a very superb number of the Royal Gallery.

Robert's Sketches. Egypt and Nubia. Vol. III.

Part 8. Moon.

This beautiful work proceeds in full bloom. A group of Nubiens opens this part with characteristic effect, and fragments of the Colossi at the Memnonium impress us with the gigantic majesty of Egyptian architecture and sculpture. The fortress of Ibrim, Nubia, is a picturesque and delicious river view; and an approach to the same, with a vessel of the country in the centre,

still more captivating and rich. A noble colossal statue at Wady Saboma, fourteen feet in height, and an exquisite picture of the ruins of the Memnonium, Thebes, finely thrown into high relief by a dark and stormy sky, complete the attractions of this splendid fasciculus.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

FRANCE.

Paris, December 14th, 1847.
We also have our *Pic de la Mirandole*, our marvellous infant, who takes to quizzing us—when barely 12 years of age—for our inconsistencies and our follies. Such a one is M. Béchard Frederick Béchard, who—not yet out of school—impersonates Aristophanes, and yesterday told us the following tale :

A certain English brewer, Jobson by name, whose personal qualifications are limited to the possession of a frothy vanity and a tolerably good income, nevertheless covets Parliamentary honours. His incapacity appears so notorious, that his rival, Master *Punch*, a certain journalist of low degree, despairing of his own success when comes the tug of war, rallies round him with all his friends, persuaded that, once elected, the brewer will soon find his level, and lose his popularity. He even liberally bestows ironical praise upon him in the columns of the paper he edits, and thus paves the way beforehand for his more effectual and complete downfall.

But *Punch* has taken no account of a certain secretary of this Jobson, who, anxious to marry the daughter of his patron, slips into the hands of the new member sundry excellent speeches, which form the staple theme of wonder in Parliament, in the papers, and amongst the public at large.

No one popular ovation is now wanting to Jobson. The schools (or, as you would have it, the Inns of Court) send delegations to him; the *dames de la Halle* (viz., the Billingsgate heroines) bear to him the tribute of their admiration. One day, however, a mischievous young girl, who is in the secret of this borrowed eloquence, steals a speech which Jobson is on the eve of delivering. The worthy brewer, suddenly deprived of his oratorical powers, declares that if they be restored to him for this once only, he will forego his seat. And he does accordingly resign in exchange for the restitution of the precious manuscript, bestowing upon the ingenious secretary his place in Parliament, and the hand of his daughter.

It has been the general opinion that this pointless criticism on the most useful and the most generous institutions, would better become some disenchanted valetudinarian than a youth, in whom it denotes precocious corruption; and, accordingly, the new comedy of the *Odeon* has been hissed, albeit with some indulgence.

I forward an extract from the *feuilletons* published on this play, as a sample of a style of criticism with which the curious might enrich their collection of "Amenities of Literature." M. Jules Janin last week very gracefully and wittily quizzed the literary pretensions of M. Ancelot. This gentleman, who has made the purchase of a *feuilleton*, in which he deposits every Monday the superfluous amount of his antiquated bile, answers the critic of the *Debats* in these rather unparliamentary terms :

"*Punch* is an envious and malicious writer, a venomous trifler, whose pen is a stiletto, who visits upon honourable names the contempt which attaches to his own; a literary intriguer of low degree, who lives on the nonsense he prints, and on the evil he labours to encompass. It has been remarked that every time this personage came on the stage, M. Jules Janin no longer laughed. Why so?"

Such is the way in which an old academician understands literary polemics. True it is that this academician has vitiated his taste by be-

coming the lessee of a theatre, and by living *pôle-môle* with actors and actresses of an inferior stamp. It is but just to add that he sank therein the whole of his fortune, and this recollection of his excesses indulgence on our part. Poor devils have a sort of prescriptive right to be irritable.

It is said that the *Théâtre Français* will produce two other proverbs of M. Alfred de Musset: —*On ne badine pas avec l'Amour*, and *Il ne faut jurer de rien*. The success which *Un Caprice* met with explains this determination, which may probably not prove profitable, either for the theatre or the poet. The two works in question are more lengthy than the first, and quite as devoid of any substantial foundation. Who knows whether the public will accept a mere dialogue—often witty—in exchange for that interest—coarse but indispensable—to which it has been so long accustomed?

M. Alex. Dumas announces for Wednesday, at the *Théâtre Historique*, the first representation of his translation of *Hamlet*. It has been played in the *Théâtre St. Germain*, before an audience of friends, whom a splendid supper awaited, and who pronounced it admirable. We will see what Philippe—*id est*, the public—will think of it, upon an empty stomach.

The tragic history of M. Le Comte Mortier, I mentioned it at the time,—has been followed by most serious consequences. The ex-diplomatist insists upon it, that these presumed acts of madness were but paroxysms of anger, induced by the disorder of his wife, and has published against her a most dishonouring letter. The Countess absolutely denies the imputations of her husband, and ascribes them, through her advocate, to the inspiration of delirious fury. The society in which the husband and wife moved declares against him, whose natural violence, it is said, went beyond all bounds; and the Countess Mortier is pronounced quite above the infamous incriminations directed against her. However, the family concilie, composed of the nearest relatives of Count Mortier, unanimously declare that he ought not to be incarcerated in a lunatic asylum. It is true that the terror which his character inspires, gives a clue to this favourable unanimity, against which most of the judges, who are possessed of the case, have entered their protest. Here are, as you may see, grounds for hesitation; and the doubts raised by this horrible lawsuit demand of us the strictest reserve in our appreciation of it. The sentence will be pronounced in a few days. Do not these chronicles of high life bear a striking resemblance to one of Mr. Warren's clever tales in the "Diary of a Physician"?

The *Académie des Sciences*, having to replace M. Benjamin Delessert, has proposed for candidates,—M. Largeau, a member of the *Bureau des Longitudes*, and, secondly, M. Bussy, the director of the *École de Pharmacie*; M. Jean Reynaud, editor in chief of the *Encyclopédie Nouvelle*; and M. Valée, divisional inspector of the *Ponts et Chausées*.* The *Académie* offers also M. Dufresnoy, to fill the chair of Professor of Mineralogy, vacant at the Museum of Natural History, by the death of M. Brongniart.

The *Société Royale des Antiquaires* of France has elected for its President, during the year 1848, M. Ch. Lenormant, conservator of antiquities in the Royal Library. M. Ph. Lebas, a member of the Institute, is the first vice-president.

NOTES FROM ABROAD.
Paraguay.—Mr. Alfred Demerey, who was sent on a scientific mission by the French government to South America, has just returned after traversing some provinces of the Brazils, and visiting Paraguay. On arriving at the frontier he was prevented from proceeding by the civil war; but the delay brought him into intercourse

* We have since learned that M. Largeau has been elected to the vacant seat.—ED. L.G.]

with M. de Bonpland, who resides at St. Borja, in a beautiful retreat (after his ten years' imprisonment by Francia), and dedicates the evening of his life to science. It is stated that M. Demersey's information, both historical and ethnographical, is full of novelty and interest; and that he discovered some ancient monuments in the Brazils.

The Censorship in Prussia.—The works of two ladies have just met with prohibition, viz.: a novel by Madame Mühlbach, entitled "The Daughter of an Empress" (the history of a natural daughter of the Empress Elizabeth,) which pretends to unfold many secret Russian affairs; and "Thus Pamphilus, and Ambrosia," by Betty Arnim,—book of romantic socialism, not calculated to be of much benefit to society.

An Arabic Newspaper, called the *Mobacker*, has been lately commenced, in Algiers, and a copy sent to the Caid of each tribe. By some mistake the copy of the Caid of the Beni-M'Thar did not reach its destination. (This tribe came from the heights of the *Plateaux du Tell* about a year ago, to make submission.) The non-appearance of the *Mobacker* caused a great disturbance in the tribe. A meeting of the heads of families was convoked by the Caid, and two horsemen were despatched to the Bureau for Arabian affairs, to inquire what the tribe was to infer from the non-receipt of a periodical which had been sent to all the other tribes. The Bureau gave prompt satisfaction to the deputies of the Beni-M'Thar, who returned to their chief to testify that no insult had been intended.

The *Chorey* has committed ravages in Constantinople: from October 24th, to November, 7th, twenty-six cases were reported, of which six ended fatally. In consequence of this, the port of Athens has been put under strict quarantine, and at other Greek ports, similar precautions have been adopted and lazarettos established. At Trebisond, the malady has ceased.

East Indian Archaeology.—We see by the *Delhi Gazette*, of October 9th, that the Archaeological Society of Delhi, Sir T. Metcalfe, President, are pursuing researches of great interest, with liberality and activity in various parts of India. Coins and inscriptions are consequently brought to light, which will illustrate the history of the country from a very early period; and many valuable literary curiosities are also collected among the treasures of the society. The ruins of Ranode, Kujras on the Caen river, and temples in the district of Chundeyree, the Jumma Musjid at Ferzabad, the inscription of Hansee, and other remarkable antiquities, are being diligently explored by officers appointed for the purpose, and with funds appropriated by the government, and the best results are anticipated from their labours.

BIOGRAPHY.

ROBERT LISTON.

The following note from a mutual friend adds to our information respecting this distinguished individual, and corrects the slight biographical inaccuracies of our hurried sketch.—(Pages 806-7).

LISTON was related, but not nearly, to Sir Rd. Liston, who spent the end of his life at a villa (Millburn), built by himself, a few miles to the west of Edinburgh—a curious tower-looking edifice, with a fine greenhouse below. Mr. Liston Ramage succeeded to Millburn on Sir Richard Liston's death, and his daughter, Lady Foulis of Collinton, now resides there.

Liston's father, grandfather, and great grandfather, were clergymen of the established Church of Scotland; his father, minister of one of Lord Hopetoun's parishes in West Lothian; his grandfather and great grandfather, of Lord Maton's parish of Aberdour, in Fifeshire. I knew his father well, but his grandfather, from my connection with Aberdour, where I was at school, and

in the neighbourhood of which I spent much of my time for the first fifty years of my life, more intimately. His father was very musical, and himself constructed several curious musical instruments. His grandfather, who died in 1796, was a fine looking old man when I knew him, much respected; I remember him Moderator of the General Assembly; something in resemblance of the cut of the late Sir Henry Moncrieff, a lyric, who would have made a fine Pope—benign and dignified looking. He was married to a sister of Dr. Hardie, the eminent Professor of church history in the University of Edinburgh, and one of the ministers of Edinburgh.

Liston, the actor, was a very distant cousin, if a cousin at all. I think the parties claimed each other as relations, from their being both eminent in their respective vocations. When I knew him in Edinburgh, a very young man, beginning practice, he devoted much of his time to the care of the poor, by whom he was greatly beloved for his tenderness and attention. No man with a rough exterior possessed kindlier feelings.

George Byrom Whittaker, Esq., died at his residence in Phillimore Place, Kensington, on the 12th inst., aged 54. He was an eminent bookseller and publisher, chiefly of school books, and some years since served the office of Sheriff of London. He, however, did not pursue corporation honours, and carried on a prosperous business to the close of his career, during which he enjoyed the society of many literary men.

J. Arthur Brandon, a young architect of considerable promise, died on the 11th inst., at the early age of twenty-six. In conjunction with his brother, Raphael, he was concerned in the publication of several architectural works, of which we need only name one on *Parish Churches*, and another on the *Analysis of Gothic Architecture*. He was held in high esteem by his professional brethren, and will be deeply mourned by a very large number of friends.

MUSIC.

EXCERPT from the Minutes of a Meeting of the Committee of the Association for the Revival of Sacred Music, held in their hall the 23rd November, 1847. The Hon. Lord Murray in the chair:

"Sir Geo. Warrender stated, that he had read with surprise a paragraph in the *Athenaeum* of the 6th of this month, in the following terms:—'We receive tidings from Edinburgh, that the efforts of that pleasing writer and ingenious man, M. Mainzer, which have again and again been cited triumphantly as productive of far larger and more immediate results, have followed the same downward course as attested them in Paris, and are now approaching, if, indeed, they have not already reached, a state of utter suspension.' That he took this, the first opportunity he had, to direct the attention of the Committee to the above paragraph, in order that the most unqualified contradiction might be given to it.

"At no former period had the Institution been in a more flourishing state, so far as regards the objects for which it was established, and, in proof of this, he had only to refer to the splendid performance of the Oratorio, 'Judas Maccabeus' last night in the Music Hall, by 250 children belonging to the senior class of the Association, to which he and a numerous audience had listened with intense delight; for not only the treble and alto parts of the choruses and fugues, but the duets and solos also, were sung in a style that would have done credit, not merely to children but to masters of the art. It was only in April last, that on his (Sir George's) motion, the Association procured the music of that celebrated oratorio, in order to test the system of instruction taught in their classes, and every one knew how admirably it had been performed on the 22nd June, scarcely two months from that time. He could not, therefore, be otherwise than

highly satisfied with a system of teaching that produced such results; and he appealed, not only to the Committee, but to the public, who witnessed the second performance of the same oratorio last night, to bear testimony to the truth of what he now stated. He could not conclude without moving—That the best thanks of the Committee be tendered to Dr. Mainzer, for the very able and efficient manner in which he has conducted the classes of the association, and their entire approbation of the system of teaching adopted and so successfully carried out by him."

"The Hon. B. F. Primrose said, He perfectly concurred in everything stated by Sir George Warrender, and had great pleasure in seconding the motion, which was unanimously carried; and the treasurer was directed to transmit to the editor of the *Athenaeum* an extract from this minute, with a request that he would insert it in the next number of that publication as yest (Signed) (Signed) "J. A. MURRAY, Chairman." "H. G. Watson, Vice-Chairman."

THE DRAMA.

Haymarket.—*The Rivals*, with a very strong cast, has been revived here, and with the *Scandal*, and the *Love Chase*, in all of which Mrs. Nisbett acts as charmingly as ever, has kept the theatre well filled. On Thursday, Mr. Archer, the box book-keeper, and one of the most obliging of the public servants, took his annual benefit, and from the appearance of the house, cannot have any cause to be dissatisfied with it. Shakspere's comedy of *Much Ado about Nothing*, was revived on the occasion with Webster and Mrs. Nisbett as *Benedick* and *Beatrice*, Farren and Keeley as *Dogberry* and *Verges*, and H. Vandenhoff, Brindal, Howe, Tilbury, and Mrs. Seymour, as *Pedro*, *Don John*, *Claudio*, *Antonio*, and *Hero*. It was altogether capitally performed and afforded a rare evening's amusement, and there can be no doubt it will take its place amongst Mr. Webster's most successful revivals.

Lyceum.—An exceedingly clever adaptation from the favourite French vaudeville called *Tiridate*, was produced at this theatre on Monday, and met with the most complete success. It has been dished up in its English dress, with great skill by Mr. Oxenford, who has located the scene in England, in the days of Mrs. Bracegirdle and Betterton, instead of in France, in the time of Madame Dumesnil and Racine. It is also nicely written, with much graceful point in the dialogue, and is altogether one of those charming little pieces which quite carry an audience with them, especially when so admirably performed as the *Tragedy Queen* (for that is the English title) was, and is, and is likely to be for a long time to come at the Lyceum. Mr. Stirling filled the part of *Mrs. Bracegirdle* with a perfect understanding of the character, into which she threw great spirit, whether in its sentimentality, comicality, or vulgarity, for it has these phases, real or assumed. Miss Marshall played her servant with great archness and vivacity, and was warmly and deservedly applauded in a part with nothing very particular in it, but which was very ably rendered by this rising actress. *David*, the lover, found a representative in Mr. Parselle, who did what there was to do, well, and Mr. Frank Matthews won golden opinions from all parts of the theatre for theunction and heartiness with which he played *Ebenezer Standfast*; it was a capital bit of acting. We have only to repeat that the *Tragedy Queen* is a delightful little comedietta.

N. James's.—Several vaudevilles have been added to the repertoire during the week; on Monday a very amusing one, called *Manche à Manche*, was performed for the first time, and introduced a very clever young actor in the person of M. Henri Alix, who played with great spirit, and at once made himself a favourite

with his audience. The *Récit du Lion*, rendered familiar to us by Webster's admirable version of it at the Haymarket, was then played for the second time, and went with great *éclat*, being very carefully performed throughout; and a very agreeable evening was closed with the *Vicomte Girofle*, also for the second time. On Wednesday the performances were varied by the repetition of *Le chef d'œuvre Inconnu*, in which M. Fechier increases in the estimation that he established with the public on his first appearance. On the same occasion *Le Secret de mon Oncle* was played for the first time this season, and went as well, as of old. We have only to add that the entertainments at the St. James's are just now very delightful.

There are no other novelties elsewhere; but at the Princess's we have had the re-appearance of Madame Thillon and the sisters Cushman, happily recovered from the influenza; while at the Adelphi "Paul Pry" has been substituted for "Gabriel," in consequence of the severe indisposition, from the same cause, of Madame Celeste. Sadler's Wells closed its doors on Wednesday, till the Christmas holidays, with benefits for some of the leading performers, and we are glad to learn that they were what they were intended to be, and what the actors here so richly deserve—Benefits! The Westminster boys have also been busy with their annual play; on the present occasion it is the *Adelphi of Tadpole*, but we shall pay further attention to this next week, when we have heard it with prologue and epilogue, generally the pith of the performance.

THE PHOENIX AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL.

VARIETIES.

Cholera. Should this Pestilence—which, God forbid!—visit England, we are much gratified to observe that the Home Secretary, Sir George Grey, takes the same view of the necessary measures for the public safety, which we ventured to suggest in last *Literary Gazette*; and that Reception Houses and Hospitals are so prepared for the reception of poor patients, to whom it would be impossible to pay proper attention in their own squalid homes (and thence the unchecked propagation of the infection); but who, being carefully removed, swung in litters or hammocks (not in carriages of any sort) to the places provided for them, might meet with every succour which their sad condition could demand. This, for the sake of the entire community is most desirable and praiseworthy.

The *Health of Towns Association* had a field-day on Saturday in the Hanover Square Rooms, the Marquis of Normanby presiding. Some "sanitary" resolutions were passed and some interesting speeches made.

Steeple-climbing.—Wright, the steeple-climber, has been replacing the vane and pointing the steeple of St. John's Church, in Perth. The kite, by means of which he endeavoured to convey a rope over the vane, failed, and the means he used to accomplish the ascent were sufficiently daring to deserve notice. He obtained five rods, each about 15 feet long, so as, on being joined together, they would reach from the bartizan to the summit. They were no thicker than the butt-end of a common fishing-rod. The first he placed against the steeple, and with no other than the precarious footing afforded by the lapping of the lead, and with the rod as his only hold by his hands, he climbed up so far as to be enabled to nail and lash the top of it to the steeple. Getting it steadied and secured thus, he pulled up a second rod by means of a cord, lashed it to the top of the first, mounted it also, fastened its top, pulled up a third, and so on until he reached the spire. He then pulled up and secured his tackle, and was soon safely again upon the bartizan.—*The Builder*.

THE LITERARY NOVELTIES.

Jewish Records of the Holy Land.—M. Carmoly, who is already known by his works on the History and Literature of the Jews of the Middle Ages, has just published a work entitled *Histoires de la Terre Sainte au XIII. et XIV. Siècles*, translated from the Hebrew, and containing the relations of old Jewish travellers. Of these, some have never before appeared in print, and others are extremely scarce. The dissertation on the Kingdom of Jerusalem, which existed in the tenth century, between the Don and the Volga, and combats the arguments of the learned who have doubted the existence of this Jewish kingdom.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Some further Portions of the Diary of Lady Willoughby, 4to, bds., 18s., morocco, £2 2s.; Benckovic's Italian Conversations, illustrated by Owen Jones, royal 8vo, calf, £1 11s. 6d.—Smart's Principles of English Grammar, 12mo, cloth, 3s., 6d.—Smart's Accidence, 12mo, cloth, 1s.—Smart's Manual, 12mo, cloth, 2s., 6d.—Smart's Key to Exercises in Manual, 12mo, cloth, 1s.—Smart's Manual and Key, 12mo, cloth, 3s.—Smart's Accidence and Principles, 12mo, cloth, 4s.—Smart's Accidence, Manual and Principles, 12mo, cloth, 6s., 6d.—Smart's Accidence, Manual, Principles, and Key, 4 books in 2 vols., 12mo, cloth, 7s., roan, 8s.—Gardiner's (Wm.) *Sights in Italy*, 8vo, cloth, 16s.—Mc Culloch's (J. R.) *Treatise on Succession to Property vacant by Death*, 8vo, 6s., 6d.—Dick's (John D.) Lectures on Acts of the Apostles, 12mo, cloth, 3rd edit. 6s., 6d.—The Family Altar, by the Rev. W. Dalton, 12mo, cloth, 6d. edit. 5s.—An Antnum at Karnford, 18mo, cloth, 3s.—Esop's Fables Versified and set to Music, 4to, cloth, gilt, 10s., 6d.—Bunyan's Pilgrim Essays, by Montgomery, Cheverys, and others, 12mo, cloth, 4s.—Common-Place Book to the Bible, by Rev. Hugh Gaston, 8vo, cloth, new edit. 7s., 6d.—Protestantism in Italy, Past and Present, by Robt. Baird, 12mo, cloth, 2s.—Thoughts on Passages selected from the Fathers, by Rev. J. B. James, sep. cloth, 3s., 6d.—Froissart's Chronicles of England, France, and Spain, 2 vols., 18mo, cloth, 8s.—A Friend in Disguise, and the Fate of a Favourite, 18mo, cloth, 2s., 6d.—Puddiana, 2 vols., post 8vo, cloth, new edit. 21s.—Flowers of the Matin and Evensong, by Miss M. Roberts, 12mo, cloth, gilt, 3s.—The Rail and the Telegraph, with 30 illustrations, 12mo, cloth, 2s., 6d.—Brian O' Linn; or, Luck is Everything, 3 vols., post 8vo, bds., £1 1s. 6d.—Letters from the Danube, 2 vols., post 8vo, cloth, 7s.—Napier's Peninsular War, vol. I, 8vo, bds., 20s.—Lodge's Peerage and Baronetage of 1848, 8vo, cloth, £1 1s. 6d.—Disney's Genealogy of British Peers, 8vo, cloth, 21s.—Disney's (Rev. J. W.) Work of God, 18mo, cloth, 1s.—Reynolds' (Rev. J. J.) Six Lectures on the Jews, post 8vo, cloth, 4s.—The Convict Ship, and England's Exiles, by C. A. Browning, 12mo, cloth, 5s.—Davis' (A. J.) Principles of Nature, 2 vols., 8vo, cloth, 18s.—A Review of Tractarianism, by John Barling, post 8vo, cloth, 5s.—The Memoir of Elizabeth Fry, vol. 2, 8vo, cloth, 18s.—The East India Register for 1848, 8vo, sewed, 10s., bds., 11s. 6d.—The Bay Wreath, or Stories of Genius and Merit, 18mo, cloth, 1s., 6d.—Narrative of Discoveries and Early Adventures, 18mo, cloth, 1s., 6d.—Finden's Illustration of Byron's Tales and Poems, royal 8vo, cloth, gilt, £1 1s.—The Province of the Intellect in Religion, book 3, by J. Worsley, 8vo, cloth, 7s.—Jay's (Rev. William) Works, vols. II and III, post 8vo, cloth, each 7s., 6d.—Taylor's Builder's Price Books for 1848, sewed, 10s.,—Murray's (Rev. J. B.) Lays of Christmas, 8vo, cloth, 1s., 6d.—Question and Answer on Mercantile Law, by Barrister, 12mo, 4s., 6d.—Comparative Merits of Life Assurance Societies, by F. Blaney, 12mo, 3s.—Jerrold's (W. B.) Disgrace of the Family, post 8vo, cloth, 7s.—Phillips's Million of Facts, new edit., 12mo, cloth, 19s.—Dugden's (R. E.) Homeopathic Treatment of Cholera, 8vo, sewed, 1s., 6d.—Shakespeare's Seven Ages of Man, with 9 illustrations, 8vo, cloth, 6s.—Watts' J. Divine and Moral Songs, with illustrations, sq. cloth, 7s., 6d.—The Sacred Album, 4to, £1 1s.

DENT'S TABLE FOR THE EQUATION OF TIME.

[This table shews the time which a clock or watch should indicate when the sun is on the meridian.]

Age.	1847.			1848.		
	Dec. 18	m. a.	11. 56 41.6	Dec. 22	m. a.	11. 58 40.7
19			57 11.2	23		59 10.6
20			57 40.9	21		59 40.5
21			58 10.8			

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

In consequence of Christmas Day falling this year on a Saturday, the *Literary Gazette* must be published on Friday (very early) morning; and as we give our list of contents for the year, within the year, so that the volume may be complete, without as it were enforcing our subscribers to begin another for the sake of their Index, we will feel much obliged to advertisers to favour us with their orders, as early as convenient, so as to ease us in meeting this emergency.

ERRATUM.—"Aneroid Barometer." In the calculation read the multiplication instead of the "addition sign," and a little lower, haul for "head."

ADVERTISEMENTS.

THEATRE ROYAL DRURY LANE,
GRAND OPERA.

FIRST NIGHT OF THE NEW OPERA.
ON MONDAY, December 29th, 1847, will be produced
a New Grand Opera, in Three Acts, entitled

"THE MAID OF HONOUR."

The Libretto by Mr. FITZBALL; the Music by Mr. BAILEY;

Produced under the direction of Mr. COOPER, Master of the Royal Opera House.

Queen Elizabeth. Mrs. WEBB,

(Who will make her Début on this occasion.) Miss MIRAM,

(Who will make her Début on this occasion.) Miss BROWN,

(Who will make her Début on this occasion.) Mr. REEVES,

Mr. LYONEL, Mr. WHITWORTH,

Waiter, Characters in the Masque.

Orpheus, Miss MIRAM, Euridice, Miss BROWN, Pluto, Mr. WEBB.

The Orchestra will be conducted by Mr. BALFE.

The Costume from authorities furnished by Mr. FEARNIE.

The Scenery painted by Messrs. GARRICK and TELLIER.

The Action of the Drama arranged by Mr. WILLMOTT.

The Evening's Entertainment will conclude with the New ALLEGORICAL DIVERTISSEMENT, entitled

"LE GENIE DU GLOBE."

Composed and Produced by Mr. B. BARNETT.

The Appointments by Mr. BROWNE.

The Machinery by Mr. B. SEOMAN.

Doors open at Seven; the Opera to commence at Half-past Seven.

THEATRE ROYAL DRURY LANE, GRAND OPERA.

Those visitors who during the last week have been disappointed in obtaining places, are respectfully informed that an extra number of Stalls have been constructed, as well as an additional row of Seats in the Dress Circle, and will be ready for occupation to-morrow evening.

REDUCED RATES FOR TERM POLICIES.

CLERICAL, MEDICAL, AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

Principals.		Young Men, M.D., Chairmen.	
George B. Babington, Esq.	Rev. Richard Garret, M.A.	Joseph Henry Green, Esq.	Oliver Harriett, Esq.
John Blackall, M.D.	John C. Brodie, Bart. F.R.S.	Clement Hill, M.D.	John Moore, M.D.
Rev. A. C. Brodie, Bart. F.R.S.	Rev. A. D. Cough, M.A.	Andrew A. Mitchell, Esq.	John R. Moray, Esq.
Rev. C. Codd, M.A.	Rev. J. J. Reynolds, M.A.	James Dunlop, M.D.	Andrew Spofforth, Esq.

IN addition to Assurances on Healthy Lives, this Society continues to grant Policies on the Lives of Persons subject to Gout, Asthma, Rupture, and other Diseases, the Premium of a Premium proportioned to the increased Risk of granting Assurances on Invalid Lives originated with this Office in the beginning of 1842.

TABLE OF PREMIUMS FOR ASSURING £100 ON A HEALTHY LIFE.

Age.	For Seven Years.		For Fourteen Years.		Life Rate.
	Annual Payment of	£ s. d.	Annual Payment of	£ s. d.	
30	1	1	1	1	4 15 4
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